

# NEW YORK CLIPPER

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WHEN CUPID PLAYS HIS PART.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,  
BY T. C. HARBAUGH.

Before the footlights every night  
An actor, all unseem,  
Receives his clew from roguish eye.  
And plays his role, I ween;  
He's busy, too, between the acts  
When'er he finds a heart,  
And life becomes a drama keen  
When Cupid plays his part.

He needs no prompter, I am sure.  
The manager can go,  
Across the stage unerring fly  
The arrows from his bow;  
The drama's all the people see.  
They watch it from the start,  
And never catch the look which tells  
How Cupid plays his part.

No matter what is on the boards,  
He's always in the play,  
So many are his cunning arts.  
He will not keep away;  
And if perchance he spoils a scene  
He takes it never to heart,  
But heals the wounds the critics give,  
For that, too, is his part.

The world applauds the latest star,  
And hastens her to greet;  
I seldom sees the tribute which  
She lays at Cupid's feet.  
Aye, after all, there's nothing like  
The conquest of a heart,  
And life's long drama never lags  
When Cupid plays his part.

THE ROMANCE OF AN ACTRESS

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,  
BY HUBERT R. EGERTON.

(CONTINUED.)

"There's the makings of a fine actress gone all to wreck and ruin—all to ruin, sir," said he; "and all on account of careless early training—an insecure footing in her art. Now, if she had taken her early apprenticeship in the hard work and good solid school of this sort of theatre we have here, she would have had something substantial to fall back on when her simpers and gasps and fine little tricks would no longer pay. Well, well—it can't be helped, but it's too bad—too bad."

And that was the judgment cast after the famous Vera Zapponi as she left the stage, never to return again.

The appointed Monday night after Vera's engagement had closed found the American true to his bargain. He was on hand at the little cottage, prepared, apparently, to carry out his comrade's scheme.

"Now you shall hear," said the Italian, gleefully rubbing his hands; "You shall hear all, for my power is great tonight and her will is conquered completely. She shall tell all—she shall sing it like a bird, and you shall tell me it is the most wonderful you ever did hear."

On this he drew back the curtains that shut off the adjoining apartment, and revealed a luxuriously furnished boudoir, lighted by a shaded lamp which stood on a small gilded table in the middle of the room. On a silken lounge reclined Vera. She half arose at the drawing aside of the curtains, fell back with a sigh at the command of Antoni. He ushered in the tall American, who had not removed his long mister, although it was dripping from the drizzle of the stormy night, and he still carried in his hand a broad slouch hat of felt. He seated himself gravely in a corner of the room where the shadows were deepest and seemed to cloak him completely from observation. The woman looked at him with a fixed stare, but did not seem to recognize him.

It would have been apparent to the most casual observer that she was in a deep trance, and that her will, steel chained and fettered, was struggling in vain to free itself. As the Italian approached and laid his hand upon her head, all resistance seemed to cease, and though the wild, fixed stare did not leave her eyes, her muscles relaxed, and a smile broke through her look of pain. She settled back into a position of ease, and took on an air of content.

"You are well and strong," said the Italian, sternly. She smiled in answer, and he went on: "I have brought a friend who shall hear your story. You shall tell him and he shall be entertained. Go on—tell all, for he has come to hear and will not grow weary. It was five years ago, you say—"

Thus commanding, and even beginning her story, Antoni settled himself easily in his chair and, distant only a few feet from the lounge on which she lay, fixed his glowing eyes on hers, and waited. She arose to a half reclining posture, and, leaning on her elbow, began as if she were detailing a story to a merry company instead of betraying a long treasured secret in the presence of these two mysterious men:

"Yes, it is something over five years ago that I was 'starring' in America, and the strangest of adventures befell me. When I arrived in New York my maid grew ill, and, receiving some unpleasant news from home, insisted on returning; so I was obliged to advertise for a young woman to replace her. There came to me a neat looking, dark eyed young girl, with a lovely face and girlish figure. She spoke with a decided Spanish accent, and I was not surprised when she told me she was the daughter of a Mexican, a rich ranchero, from whose home she had fled to meet a lover, an American, who had been sojourning in her country. She was awaiting his coming in New York, but he had been delayed, and she had found it necessary to seek some work that might support her while she waited.

"I took an interest in the girl, although she betrayed, by a certain occasional coarseness of manner, that her nature had not been as gentle, nor her education as thorough, as a millionaire father might be supposed to secure for an only child. She seemed pre-occupied, too, most of the time, and made many blunders during the month she was in my service. I bore with her, however, for, as I said before, I sympathized with her, and although I

knew she was deceiving me in her story of her life. I was quite willing to allow her to treasure her own secret, without adding another pang by prying into the real causes of her woe. Another peculiarity of hers which I bore with was her refusal to live at the hotel with me. She preferred her old lodgings in some obscure quarter of the city, and, retiring thither every night at a late hour, returned each morning very early; so she was enabled to give me all the attention I could demand. Her explanation was, she feared that, living at the hotel, she might be traced more easily by her late father's agents, who were scouring the country for her.

"The New York engagement of one month had been intended as the close of our American tour,

covered that with her had disappeared a roll of American bank notes amounting to something like a hundred pounds. She might have taken much more, for all my money and jewels were at her hand, but she seemed to have selected exactly this sum, as if it were the amount she needed for a special purpose. I was very angry at her dishonesty, and, although it was within a few hours of the time when the train drawing my special car was to start, I felt inclined to summon an officer and have the thief run down. This idea was speedily abandoned, though, on the reflection that I should be delayed and lose the fruits of my engagement. I locked the last of my boxes and summoned the porter to take them away. When that sturdy person had

There was something so human and reassuring in his sturdy figure and manly voice that I felt safe under his guidance, and all my fears fled. The house, what I could see of it in the faint light of the street lamps, was a dingy tenement with grimy approaches. The single stone step by which its hallway was entered was obstructed by a cluster of noisy, half-clad children, and frowzy mothers with squalling infants in their arms. Twenty shrill voices volunteered the information that the foreign actress (that's what they called Juanita) lived in a back room three flights up; so I bravely made my way along a narrow, half-dark, and slimy, and up muddy staircases to the third floor. There I paused at the door of the rear apartment and tapped lightly.

rather than that of a thief, and I felt intimidated. My pity for the poor creature grew as I saw the pitch of desperation to which she had been worked. She went on nervously: 'Come—call them—let them take me to prison. But the money, no!'

"I replied soothingly: 'Poor child! I have no officers awaiting my signal. I have come here alone, as your friend, not to demand the stolen money nor to punish you for your act. I come to drag you from danger, to ask you to return to my service—to go this moment from these surroundings of squalor and crime.'

"She looked at me incredulously for a moment, and tears glistened in her eyes. She seemed on the point of casting herself into my outstretched arms, when some overwhelming thought seemed to possess her, and nerve her up again to her former state. She dashed the tears away and boldly returned my gaze. The tears seemed to have washed from her eyes the fierce tigress gleam that had shone in them before, and they now looked softly into mine as she said: 'Madame, you are good, always good—so kind to me. I am covered with shame before you. But I may not tell you all. I may not avail of your kindness. I may not give you back what I have robbed you of. Some day I will restore it to you, although I labor a lifetime to do it. Now go—leave me to my destiny, and think of me no more.'

"She pointed to the door, and I was mechanically obeying, crossing before her to reach the exit, glad, indeed, to find a free escape offered me from this trap, when a change came over her countenance—an eager, strained look. She put out her arm and pushed me back. The old crook sprang to her feet, and both women listened intently.

"There was a sound of heavy footfalls on the stairs—a clattering hurried step. In a moment the door was burst open and a man dashed in, closing and barring it behind him. His hair was cropped close, but his light blue eyes and fair complexion showed him of the breed of the cold north countries. His figure was tall and appeared shapely with muscular development, although he was clad in rough, ill-fitting garments. He wore a stonish hat drawn down over those piercing eyes of his, as if to conceal their wild, hunted look. He stood in the middle of the room for a few seconds, panting, gasping for breath, as one who had just finished a test of physical endurance. His back was towards me, and in his precipitate entrance he had not noted my presence.

"'Well, I am here. Your agents were true. They allowed me to work my way out,' said he, still panting from his efforts. Juanita said nothing; she stood gazing at him in mute horror, her lips parted wide, her eyes staring vacantly at him.

"'What,' said he, in evident surprise, 'have you nothing to say to me, now I am here? Are you not pleased at my escape, or have you changed your mind and your love in my absence?'

"The girl's face flushed scarlet, and she found her voice under the sting of his rebuke. 'We are not alone,' said she, pointing over his shoulder at me. He turned full about, with the bound of a tiger, and faced me, with a fierce glint in his eye. In his hand he held a revolver, and his desperate air terrified me so that I gave a hoarse cry that was neither a scream nor a groan.

"'A woman! A spy!' cried he, seizing my arm and dragging me out into the light. Juanita came forward, pulled his hand from my wrist, and stood between us. 'Don't forget you are a gentleman,' said she, 'even if—'—'If I have only just escaped from prison,' he interrupted. She nodded her head, accepting his interpretation of her thought.

"'Explain this,' he resumed. 'Do you intend to give a reception to your patrons and friends to celebrate my escape? Perhaps you have a policeman or two among your invited guests?' He looked around suspiciously, drawing up his lip and snarling like a wild beast brought to bay.

"'Silence!' commanded the girl. 'There are no guests, no police, no one but us. This lady is here by accident. It was she who furnished the money to pay my agents, and to provide you the funds to continue your flight.' He put aside his weapon on hearing this and resumed his former uneasy manner, but eyed me, as I saw, with a still lurking suspicion.

"'Then you have secured passage for me on the schooner?' he inquired, listening intently to the sounds made by children clattering up and down the crazy stairs of the house, as if he were trying to detect some note of danger from the midst of their riotous clamor. 'The schooner sailed this morning early; the master would not wait, though I begged him, and had paid the money,' replied Juanita. 'Curse him!' broke out the man in a fury. 'I have had all my trouble and suffering for nothing. I shall be taken before morning if I stay here. I must leave at once, for they will be sure to look for me where you are. My only safety is separation from you.'

"The girl sighed, and a sharp pain seemed to have passed through her heart. 'Yes,' she agreed, 'Your safety depends on your separation from me, and I prove my fidelity by agreeing to the sacrifice by suffering myself, that you may not.'

"'This is all very well,' he broke in, brusquely, 'for sentiment, but action is what I want. Where shall I go that I shall not be tracked and trapped in twenty-four hours?'

"Juanita turned to me, hesitating a moment as if dreading to tell the thoughts that were in her mind; then, seizing my two hands, she knelt at my feet and looked up at me imploringly. Tears streamed from her dark eyes, and sobs choked her voice as she spoke:

"'Oh, madame you who are so kind, so good, so forgiving—you who have won my adoration—will you add one angel blessing to all your kindness—a crowning blessing to me, your slave?'

"Surprised beyond measure, utterly bewildered, I stammered a demand for an explanation of this sudden change in her manner, and of the astounding question that accompanied it.

"'What favor, what blessing can I give?' I asked.

"'Save him!' she replied, almost hysterical, clinging to my hands with a desperate clutch.

"'How can I save him?' I ventured mechanically, being truly too much horrified by the proposition that I should involve myself in the projects of an escaped convict to command my full senses.'



but a fine contract being urged on us by a San Francisco manager, my husband was tempted to sign for me, although he was ill and anxious to return to England, for it was the fatal stroke of consumption that had come upon him. But he was devoted to me and to our child, whom we had left at home, and was willing to make any sacrifice that my professional standing and wealth might increase, and that the little one's comfort might be assured.

"So we were booked for the long trip across the continent. The company was packed off by rail a week ahead, I delaying that I might secure luxuriously furnished boudoir, lighted by a shaded lamp which stood on a small gilded table in the middle of the room. On a silken lounge reclined Vera. She half arose at the drawing aside of the curtains, fell back with a sigh at the command of Antoni. He ushered in the tall American, who had not removed his long mister, although it was dripping from the drizzle of the stormy night, and he still carried in his hand a broad slouch hat of felt. He seated himself gravely in a corner of the room where the shadows were deepest and seemed to cloak him completely from observation. The woman looked at him with a fixed stare, but did not seem to recognize him.

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dragged the trunk from my room and, shuddering it, had lumbered heavily away, I noticed a crumpled soiled envelope lying on the floor where it had fallen and lain concealed behind the box. I picked it up and read the address, 'Juanita Mendez, No.—Suffolk Street.' I opened it and found enclosed, a scrap of paper, apparently blank, and was about to throw it away when, by chance holding it up against the gaslight, I detected a few words evidently picked out with pin perforations through the paper. Looking carefully, I easily read:

"Thursday night I made the attempt. I must have money for immediate use—five hundred at least, for they will be after me hot foot, and I must give them a long chase. I throw this into the corner at the first opportunity, on the chance that it was possessed by a thief or a burglar. The old creature gave a fierce exclamation in Spanish, and, hobbling to the door, turned the key in the lock and stood with her back against the only exit by which I could make my escape."

"'Fear not, Juanita,' said she, as she glared savagely at me; 'she comes for your money, but she shall not have it. Never, never shall she leave here. She is in the trap.'

"A sick feeling of terror came over me. Why had I come on this mad enterprise? Juanita, however, pale and with close pinched lips, as if nerved by an overpowering resolution, calmed the old creature with a few words of command.

"'Unlock the door, mother. The lady does not come to rob us. Go back to the fire and leave this to me.'

"The murderous look vanished from the old crone's face. Tottering back to her place in the corner, she sat there eyeing me suspiciously. Juanita turned to me.

"'Your mother!' said I, picking up her words. 'Yes,' she replied defiantly; 'she is my mother; this is my home; I took your money, and I refuse to return it! It is beyond your reach, devoted to a good purpose. Not you nor the officers whom you, no doubt, have waiting your call can take it from me.'

"She faced me bravely, with the air of a heroine

"She noticed my look of repulsion towards the man, who was glowering at us from the middle of the room, and listening with strained intensity to every new sound from the hallways. She seemed to augur ill from this look of mine, for she resumed, with another outburst of tears: 'Think—let your kind heart sway you. Do not speak hastily, I beg you on my knees. He is from our country, far in the South. He is a stranger who has been sent here a convict for no crime but that of loving me, and defending me at the risk of his life. He was transferred from his Southern to this Northern prison that his friends might not release him; and I, a weak, ignorant girl, whose only strength is her love, have gone thus far, as you have seen, towards success in releasing him. If I fail now it will kill me. You are a woman; pity the poor creature who prays at your feet that her sacrifice for love may not have been in vain.'"

"I had grown intensely interested and excited under the influence of this appeal. I raised her to her feet and embraced her. 'Poor child!' I said, 'you are mad. How can I save him? Tell me, that I may make you happy! She drew away from me with an eager impulse, and, clasping my hands again, kissed them with burning lips; then she answered in a deep, thrilling, hurried voice: 'You asked me a moment since to go with you that I might be saved. Save him instead.' 'But how? I do not understand,' I repeated, with a thrill of apprehension at the coming revelation. Her reply came like the shock of an explosion, driving me backward, breathless, dazed, astounded: 'Take him with you. Your husband is expected to be your companion. Let him be the invalid. He may be so concealed and not arouse suspicion. You are ready to go. Heaven has sent you to me that he may be saved. Oh, let your good heart speak! Save him! Save him!' Again she sank to her knees and clung to my gown. I struggled a moment, resisting the terrible proposition, but my fit of rash impulse was on. I know not what folly possessed me, but I seemed to catch the excitement that moved others and seemed to make the very atmosphere of the apartment thrill. My foolish heart did speak indeed, and it said yes.

"The man sprang forward with the hearty exclamation: 'You're a trump, and you shall not regret this, madam. I shall repay you with my life's work.' I was blindly enthused in this dangerous project now, and over all obstacles would I go, as was my nature, to attain success, so I spoke at once, and in an earnest tone: 'Come, the time is short. I shall be barely able to catch my train.' I passed out into the hallway, leaving the girl and her convict lover to the pangs of a fearful adieu. As I passed I saw her take from her bosom and hand to him a purse and a thick folded paper, like a legal document, which she had evidently been keeping safe for him while he was in the hands of his enemies. In a few moments he appeared and hurried down the stairs. As he came out I heard a smothered cry from the heartbroken girl, and a jar, as if she had fallen to the floor.

"My companion made haste to hide himself in the carriage, and I quickly followed, the coachman now all frown at the long delay. I silenced him with a liberal tip, and, all smiles and cheerfulness again, he drove off briskly, catching the train easily, with fully ten minutes to spare. My companion said nothing all the way, but listened to my directions earnestly, as was proven by the fact that he assumed his invalid character very readily, and in the glare of the station lights made no haste to conceal himself in the privacy of my car. I detected in him now a gentlemanly manner, the speech of an educated person, and a knowledge of polite conventionalities that astonished me. I had no doubt he was some wild son of refined forbears, who had gone out into the world to enjoy the reckless course of many a ne'er-do-well before him.

"I felt a glow of triumph cheering my heart as the train glided away on its long journey to the Western ocean. The excitement of this feeling that we were racing with an enemy at railroad speed, taking part with the hunted animal and distancing the cruel hunters and their hounds! Oh, but I thought it glorious then, silly creature that I was, living on popularity and excitement.

"There were two state rooms at opposite ends of the car. The pretended invalid occupied one, and I the other. He was gloomy, reticent and scowling, and we scarcely spoke except when the waiter took his meals, and I stood by to see that he did not loiter about to identify my masquerading convict. For the rest of the time he lay on a lounge, wrapped in his eyes in a blanket, and on a perpetual alert for the approach of an enemy. Two or three days of this life, however, wore off the novelty of the situation and tamed down my enthusiasm. His taciturnity and black scowl made me shudder, and I began to feel an eager desire to rid myself of him. I even wished secretly that the officers would appear and rid me of my incubus, or that he might drop off at some point in the wilderness, where he might rejoin the lawless band to which he must undoubtedly belong. But he showed no signs of doing me that service. It was apparent he intended going the whole distance, and all I could do was to fret through the dreary hours until the journey's end should rid me of my hated companion.

"At last we came within one day of that happy point, and I gladly anticipated the hour when I should be rid of him forever. By this time he had confided to me that he intended leaving the country, designing, I suspected, to find a refuge in Australia, although he did not say so. Well, the evening before the last day, when, as I have said, I had begun to feel happy again, there came a succession of terrible events that turned aside the whole course of my prosperous life, and even cast a cloud upon my name."

"It was about midnight that I felt our rushing train come to a sudden stop. I looked out and saw we were on a side track, or turn out, in a wild mountain gorge. Ahead a red light was waving violently. My pretended invalid was all agitation when he heard this, and at all hazards insisted on thrusting his head out and seeing for himself. A moment's inspection was enough to satisfy him. He wrapped the blankets about his head and body, and flung himself into the berth. There were a few shots heard out ahead, then a brisk fusilade and a succession of howls and shrieks.

"I suspected at once that the train had been attacked by robbers, who were intent on securing the treasure in the express car. There was a sudden jerk of the car, the engineer having, as I heard afterwards, thrown open the throttle and made a desperate attempt to escape with his train. We dragged along for a few feet with the brakes tightly set, then I heard the coupling snap, and we were still again. The rest of the train rushed on in the dark, leaving us behind. Finally there were shots and cries in the distance and then a crash. My companion said the train had been wrecked by some obstruction that had thrown it over into the deep gulch, and the robbers were looting the ruins of the treasure car. But what was to become of us, I asked; what were we to do? 'Never fear,' he replied to my terrified question, 'they will not forget us. They will return to loot this car as well as the others.' But not a movement did he make; he only shrank closer under his blankets in the most cowardly manner. I thought, and, terrified as I was, I could not repress my feeling of contempt for him. For myself, I was on the point of fainting; but I think my indignation at his unmanly conduct served and supported me through those dreadful scenes, and made me strong to endure them.

"The side track where we had stopped was on a sort of ridge, so that front and back there was a steep grade to the lower rolling ground at the base of the mountain ranges. The brakes, which were tightly fastened, alone held us, and the idea came to me might we not escape by loosening them and letting the car slide back with the increasing momentum of its weight on such a grade. I started up the cowardly fugitive, and suggested that he loose them and set us free. He growled a surly and decided negative, and commanded me, as I valued my life, not to attempt such a thing on my own part. I thought I detected in his earnest opposition to this suggestion of mine a reluctance to return even a step over the road he had pursued in his flight from justice, lest his chances of recapture should be increased, and my contempt for him redoubled. There was nothing for me to do but sit down and calmly await my fate, and I did so with a greater coolness and fortitude than I had ever thought myself possessed of.

"An hour passed in this way, and I began to think perhaps we should be forgotten after all. But no; before the hope could become a conviction in my mind there came the sound of voices from the outside and a great clatter and thumping on the car platform. The door was burst open and three men came in, dragging after them a small iron safe and a great bundle, which I had no doubt contained valuables they had stolen from the treasure car. These they deposited in the middle apartment, or drawing room of the car, and then paused to rest, for all three seemed nearly exhausted.

"Now loose the brakes and let her slide down the grade to where the horses are," commanded one who seemed to be the leader. The man so directed went out, and a moment later I heard the scraping of the brake, and the car began slowly gliding back and down the mountain side. One of two remaining leaned over the little safe, and battered away at it with tools which he handled like an expert. The other turned about, and his eyes fell on me for the first time. He gave a start. 'Why, this car's occupied! Here's a woman,' he exclaimed. 'An English actress and her sick husband with her. I told you that before,' replied the man at the safe. He looked up at the same time, and, getting a good view of his features, I recognized a fellow passenger who had intruded on our privacy the day before, he said, by accident, and who had retired with profuse apologies, not failing, however, to mistake the door of my invalid's stateroom for the exit, thus satisfying himself of his weak condition. The other seemed uneasy on this intelligence, but contented himself finally with a glance at the cowardly fugitive, and a tug at the blanket which covered his face. He came out of the stateroom with a gruff word of reassurance to me, and his comrade succeeding at that moment in opening the battered safe, with an appropriate cry of triumph, he was happily diverted, and my concealed convict was safe for the time, at least.

"Then it was that I fell under the spell of that enemy who has impoverished me—that man who brought me to this. And I, with that secret of ours, did not a single thing to gratify my heart, struggling against his power to wring it from me. It is to this I have come—to this conscience brings those like me, the accomplices of crime! Oh, I am guilty, guilty, guilty!"

The strained look left Vera's eyes; she covered her face with her hands, as if to shut out some awful scene, and, bursting into tears, fell back on the lounge, where she lay, weeping bitterly.

The visitor sprang to his feet and stood, flushed and excited, at the table. 'Bring her back to herself,' he cried, 'release her from this trance; it will not last long.'

"Fear nothing," said the Italian, "she always finishes this way, and then comes back to herself gradually through the medium of her tears."

The American poured out two glasses of wine from a decanter on the table, and drank one at a time, as if to steady his nerves, then, catching a sight of her face again, repeated angrily: "Bring her back, I say. She suffers."

"Tell me first what do you think of the story?" said Antoni, staying him with a deprecating gesture. "Do you not find it wonderful? Could you not trace it through her words?"

"I do find her story wonderful," said the American, "what is more, I recognize it. It's true, every word of it."

"True? You say that? You are convinced?" exclaimed Carlo, joyously.

Vera, coming from her trance, started to her feet with an exclamation of terror. "What have I done? What have I said?" she cried, wringing her hands.

"Only the truth—the plain truth—for I recognize it in every detail," said the guest with a reassuring gesture.

"Do you recognize it?" exclaimed the Italian, who had noted the look of recognition that had passed between his victim and the visitor. "How could you know?"

"How could I? Because I was there; because I am Jack Hardy, the escaped convict, the evil genius who had brought woe upon this poor woman whom you have held under your spell so long."

The Italian made a sudden bound, but was brought to an equally abrupt pause in the middle of the room by a revolver thrust in his face.

"Go back! Sir!" cried the American, stepped back and heard what I have to say. "I'm a pretty bad man when I'm roused, and my record's a tough one, but I'm a man of honor still, and I have no words to express my contempt for a sneak and a blackmailer such as you."

"Is this honor?" gasped the Italian, "to betray my confidence?"

"Your confidence?" sneered the guest. "Dog! You say you put your spell on this unfortunate lady that you might wring a secret from her. You aimed to possess yourself of the treasure car, among the mountaineers. Let me tell you the truth. It is not the stolen jewels—the worthless bonds and documents you thirst for, but that document, that legal paper which she tells you Jack Hardy concealed because its possession might betray him on his dangerous ride over the mountains to freedom."

The Italian turned pale—he had been flushed in a flaming passion until now—and fell back in his chair, staring wildly at the speaker, as if he had been thrown into a trance himself by the dominating will of his guru. Vera said nothing, but listened earnestly to the words of the latter as he went on:

"Let me tell you the truth, I say. You are in the employ of those who wrongfully hold a vast estate here in England. These false heirs know that there exists a will, an indisputable document giving the property to its rightful owner, Cecil Berkeley Crain. They would reward you with a fortune twenty times the value of the petty treasure hidden in the mountains if you could only lay hands on that paper and burn it before your eyes. But they have not dreamed that the wretched Vera is still alive, and determined to have his own."

"You are not Jack Hardy—that is not your name?" exclaimed Vera.

"No; I shake off with the weight of my sins, and so hope to cast the past into oblivion. I am Cecil Crain, villain. I have come to relieve her of my secret, and to make her my wife—to reward her with riches in my power of prosperity."

"Let me go! Give me air!" exclaimed the Italian.

"Let you go? Inform your vile employers of the blow that about to fall on them? No? A step to the wall, and you are a dead man!" said Jack Hardy grimly.

The Italian shrank cowering to his chair.

"You are weak. Drink," commanded the visitor, pointing to the glass of wine on the table. Carlo took the glass, drained it to the last dregs, and let it fall to the floor from his nerveless hand. He sank back again, staring at his fierce guest, as if fascinated. The latter continued: "In that drink is a powerful drug; you may feel it in your veins now, conquering your will, robbing you of strength and control. You will find yourself marooned, a captive at my call. You will find yourself marooned, a captive at my call. You will find yourself marooned, a captive at my call. You will find yourself marooned, a captive at my call."

"I'm a good man, and I'll be a good man again."

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"Let me go! Give me air!"

"Perhaps," he replied, "but now I am free to offer you, who cheered me in my cloudy days, a life the sunshine that has begun to glow on me."

"Whether the call boy was romancing or not, none of us could say, but true it is that the Italian was never again seen, that Vera never went on the stage again, and that the papers said she had married a wealthy admirer of her youth, who had lately come into a rich property. And so the spell of Vera's enslavement and of our curiosity was broken.

"The side track where we had stopped was on a sort of ridge, so that front and back there was a steep grade to the lower rolling ground at the base of the mountain ranges. The brakes, which were tightly fastened, alone held us, and the idea came to me might we not escape by loosening them and letting the car slide back with the increasing momentum of its weight on such a grade. I started up the cowardly fugitive, and suggested that he loose them and set us free. He growled a surly and decided negative, and commanded me, as I valued my life, not to attempt such a thing on my own part. I thought I detected in his earnest opposition to this suggestion of mine a reluctance to return even a step over the road he had pursued in his flight from justice, lest his chances of recapture should be increased, and my contempt for him redoubled. There was nothing for me to do but sit down and calmly await my fate, and I did so with a greater coolness and fortitude than I had ever thought myself possessed of.

"The strong stream which gurgled noisily along the rocky decline had been dammed with stones and earth, and so turned from its natural bed, where a deep excavation had been made in the shattered little safe the great legal document, which he feared might betray him, and then, closing it with its great difficulty, tumbled it with its treasure into the excavation. Then he gathered up the other plunder carefully and packed it on top of the first deposit. On that he placed a layer of stones and earth, and then, attacking the dam with a spade, turned the water back into its natural course, over the treasure case, leaving not a trace of its existence. Flinging the spade into the gulch, an inaccessable chasm, where it was lost beyond any possibility of discovery, he took his hand and raised it to his forehead. 'You are an angel!' said he. 'We must separate now; perhaps for ever! There was a tender tone of sadness in his voice, but his recklessness soon returned. 'You will be sought for and found when daylight comes,' he resumed. 'Have no fear—lock yourself in the car yonder, and wait. Keep my secret until I come to relieve you of your charge, and you shall not regret your goodness.' With that he untethered the horses, mounted one, lashed the others into a wild gallop through the dark, and, then, giving his restive animal the rein, dashed off in the opposite direction to that they had taken.

"The strained look left Vera's eyes; she covered her face with her hands, as if to shut out some awful scene, and, bursting into tears, fell back on the lounge, where she lay, weeping bitterly.

The visitor sprang to his feet and stood, flushed and excited, at the table. 'Bring her back to herself,' he cried, 'release her from this trance; it will not last long.'

"Fear nothing," said the Italian, "she always finishes this way, and then comes back to herself gradually through the medium of her tears."

The American poured out two glasses of wine from a decanter on the table, and drank one at a time, as if to steady his nerves, then, catching a sight of her face again, repeated angrily: "Bring her back, I say. She suffers."

"Tell me first what do you think of the story?" said Antoni, staying him with a deprecating gesture.

"Do you not find it wonderful? Could you not trace it through her words?"

"I do find her story wonderful," said the American, "what is more, I recognize it. It's true, every word of it."

"True? You say that? You are convinced?" exclaimed Carlo, joyously.

Vera, coming from her trance, started to her feet with an exclamation of terror. "What have I done? What have I said?" she cried, wringing her hands.

"Only the truth—the plain truth—for I recognize it in every detail," said the guest with a reassuring gesture.

"Do you recognize it?" exclaimed the Italian, who had noted the look of recognition that had passed between his victim and the visitor. "How could you know?"

"How could I? Because I was there; because I am Jack Hardy, the escaped convict, the evil genius who had brought woe upon this poor woman whom you have held under your spell so long."

"Is this honor?" gasped the Italian, "to betray my confidence?"

"Your confidence?" sneered the guest. "Dog! You say you put your spell on this unfortunate lady that you might wring a secret from her. You aimed to possess yourself of the treasure car, among the mountaineers. Let me tell you the truth. It is not the stolen jewels—the worthless bonds and documents you thirst for, but that document, that legal paper which she tells you Jack Hardy concealed because its possession might betray him on his dangerous ride over the mountains to freedom."

The Italian turned pale—he had been flushed in a flaming passion until now—and fell back in his chair, staring wildly at the speaker, as if he had been thrown into a trance himself by the dominating will of his guru. Vera said nothing, but listened earnestly to the words of the latter as he went on:

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## World Players

Regarding the recent report of the closing of the "Maloney's Mishaps" Co., Manager J. W. McCready sends the following: "Will you kindly state in your next issue that neither effects nor receipts of the above company were attained, although such an attempt was made by two former employees; that the company was not delayed one moment, but proceeded to New Britain; that salaries were paid in full on Tuesday, and that notwithstanding the unprofessional conduct of two late members of the party to hamper our movements we are still in the land of the living, doing business, giving the best of service, and receiving full reports of our company's handiwork on stage."

Jack T. Williams and wife (Eva Masters) closed with "A Progressive Woman" Co. Jan. 4 and will spend some weeks at their home in Weston, Mo.

Roster of the Bartlett Theatre Co. Owen Bartlett, Clyde Tressell, Fred Bartlett, Harry Hamlin, Orrville Stewart, Dot Bartlett, Minnie Tressell, Fannie Hess Tressell and Little Lloyd Hamlin. We played Christmas week at Dubuque, Ia., to packed houses.

Joe Deming closed with the Coleman Comedy Co. Dec. 27, was presented with a diamond and gold head cane by Manager Coleman. John E. Toole has in rehearsal his new play, "Gipsy German."

Florence French is playing the part of Tabitha in "The Midship Special."

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Guy Woodward and wife, Bessie Warren, are at present in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Mr. Woodward informs us that the Woodward-Warren Co. will go out next season conducted on entirely new lines.

Aggie Lorraine is undergoing medical treatment for her throat.

Notes from Brown's Extravaganza Co.: We are almost ready to open our Spring season on Jan. 1 in Duncannon, Pa. The company will be on the best of the road, and we shall play two musical comedies.

The roster: L. H. McIntyre and Chas. Hall, proprietors; L. H. De Leon, business representative; W. S. Montgomery, stage director; Prof. Ernest Hosea, musical director; Christie C. Kanago, machinist; James Maning, Warren Ashley, Larry Conners, William Hall, Tommy Danforth, Al. Hector, Fred Le Van, Grace Harlowe, Trixie Harlowe and Marie Marion.

Reports of good business come from "The World Against Her" Co. The roster: Prof. De Vere, Prof. James E. Keay, W. W. Taylor, Phil. Perkins, Eugene Alton, Walter Nichols, J. W. Winters, Sallie Doshon, Lulu Villa, Eva Violette, Ada Harcourt, Cassy Willis and Little Mabel.

Odette Tyler, now playing in "The Gay Parisians" at Hoy's Theatre, this city, will begin a starring tour in "The Councillor's Wife," under Charles Frohman's direction, at Savannah, Ga., on Easter Monday.

An arrangement has been made between Charles Frohman, Al. Hayman and George Musgrave, of the firm of Williamson & Musgrave, Australian theatrical managers, whereby "An Artist's Model" will be at the Broadway Theatre, this city, will make a tour of Australia after its present American season.

Sidney Drew's company stranded Jan. 1 at Memphis, Tenn.

H. E. McKee and P. S. Barrett were CLIPPER callers on Jan. 3, and requested us to deny the recent report that the McKee & May Comedy Co. had stranded in Port Jervis, N. Y., on Dec. 26. The gentlemen stated that the company had laid off for a few weeks to strengthen, and would reopen Jan. 14, at Hawley, Pa.

The roster of the Chase-Lister Theatre Co.: The company was given a supper after the performance on Christmas Eve by Managers Chase & Lister, after which Mr. Chase was presented by the company with a handsome gold chain and K. of P. charm, and Mr. Lister with a fine silk umbrella with leather case. On Christmas night Mr. Gillingswater, stage manager, gave the company a banquet, after the performance, and on Saturday night, Manager Moore, of the Graham Theatre, Washington, Ia., gave the company a supper. The week was continued.

W. H. Wetherbee joined the Hopkins Concert Co., at Atlanta, Ga., as printed.

Klaw & Erlanger, theatrical agents of this city, are making extensive alterations in the Holland Building, Forth Street and Broadway, into which they will move their offices in April.

The Dale Stock Co., of Troy, N. Y., produced "Imogene, the Witch's Servant," at Mechanicville, N. Y., on Jan. 1 under the management of E. J. Buihan and T. M. Guerin.

John E. Burke, to appear in a new comedy, entitled "The Doctor's Wife," taken to and about him, in Aloma Park, has been engaged to play the sonobrite part opposite to Mr. Burke, and introduce her specialties. The piece will be under the management of Sam Coombs.

Notes from the Senter Pavon Co.: We have been on the Pacific coast just a year, and find business uniformly good. We have traveled to date 7,000 miles, making one, two and three week stands. Roster: Senter Pavon, proprietor and manager; Frank Robertson, business manager; Albert Lando, stage manager; D. E. Curtis, R. C. Lawrence, Loyd Fanshaw, Fred, Ed. Bennett, Mrs. James H. Moore, Marie Moore, Lucy Pavon, Vina Pavon, Corinne Curtis, Lila Pavon, May Cooper Lando and Baby Curtis.

May C. Standish, who is playing the role of Mary Aymar, in "The Sporting Duchess," at the Academy of Music, this city, was married on Dec. 19 to William B. Rose (non professional), at Jersey City, N. J., by Rev. Montgomery Joupe officiating. The marriage was not announced until last week.

Sam C. Miller and Marie Harecourt joined the Florida Stamford Co., at Brownsville, Pa., recently.

Manager Corse Pavon reports that on New Year's Day his company played to the greatest number of paid admissions in the history of the Youngstown (O.) Opera House. The business for the week proved to be the best of the season in that town.

Richard Mansfield has announced his intention to retire from the stage at the conclusion of this season and go upon the lecture platform.

It is further stated that he has instructed W. A. McConnell, his general manager, to cancel as much as possible of the tour booked for his next season. It is his intention, however, to fill his theatrical engagements in New York, and other large cities.

Notes from the S. P. Phillips Co.: We are in Kansas, and the wind is blowing dollars into the box office. Several handsome presents were exchanged among the members on Christmas. Argie Lorraine, soubrette, and Mrs. P. Marshall, who were married recently at Murphysboro, Ill., have closed and gone to Portage, Wis., where they will be the guests of Mr. Marshall's parents. They have been replaced by Stella Blair and Walter S. Coffey. La Petit Freddie, who has been confined with the measles at Kansas City, rejoined the company at Indianapolis. He looks well, and the recent heavy rains, on account of a washout, have not spared any expense in advertising the show this season, and Bob Mack is continually originating some novelty to attract the public's attention. Besides carrying one of the best band and orchestra on the road, we use eighteen styles of lithos, for window work, besides stands, banners and small work. The roster of the company is as follows: J. C. Lewis, proprietor; Bob Mack, manager; Merlin Norton, business manager; W. W. Bowler, agent; W. J. S. Soper, press representative; W. S. Coffey, music director; N. Verner, business stage manager; Stella Blair, Minnie Bernard, George L. Coffey, La Petit Freddie, Otto Shatuck, Knox G. Wilson, Frank Camp, H. A. Tatini, Fred Hart, L. Coffey, Jno. E. Seeley, Ed. Zimmerman, Charles Skardon, Bert Leroy, and the two original Doffs, Scrubby and Petty.

The new Opera Hall at Butler, O., was formally opened Dec. 25. Floyd E. Wiss is owner and manager of the house.

Cooper & Pashington's Co. closed in El Paso, Ill.

## Variety and Minstrelsy

Capt. W. D. Ament and Fred Mortimer have formed a partnership and have organized a comedy company, with Jewell Darrell as the star. They are touring through Iowa and Illinois, and report business as being very good.

Roster of the farce comedy entitled "Tramps of New York": F. L. Taylor, manager; John Rajan, treasurer; Frank Bennett, stage manager; Al. Harris, assistant stage manager; W. W. Bowler, musical director; Thos. Goltz, master of properties; Matt, Dee, Thomas Hall, Miss Peartree, Lydia Temple, Hazel St. Clair and Jennie Wylie. We are playing to excellent business and receiving flattering press notices everywhere. We are booked through Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia.

The first ball to be given by Union No. 26, National Alliance Theatrical Stage Employees of Grand Rapids, Mich., takes place Jan. 18.

Billy Hill, comedian, and Louis Edmunds, singing and dancing soubrette, have signed to play parts and sing in a specialty with Burr Robbins' comedy, "A Trip to the Circus," under the management of G. H. Hamilton.

The members of many of the secret societies in Passaic, N. J., have started a movement to erect an handsome opera house and lodge building at that place.

During Roland Reed's recent engagement in Atlanta, Ga., he was presented with a gold badge studded with diamonds and rubies by the Cleveland Girls.

Roster of the "Circus Girl" Co.: Ned Hathaway and Orrville E. Wadle, sole proprietors; Ned Hall, away manager; Edward, treasurer; Chas. B. Matins, leader; Ada Marley, leading lady; Frank Ruth, Ruth Hayden, Ollie Woods, Marguerite Hines, Miss. Cecil Vernon, John P. Burk and Prof. Nix's band and orchestra. We open Jan. 8, and play all night stands through Illinois and Indiana.

James B. Mackie's "Grimes' Celar Door" Co. is laying off two weeks in Chicago. The company resumes its tour Jan. 13, playing Indianapolis, Columbus and Dayton, then down East. Thos. Addison is writing a new comedy, entitled "A Town Clown," which Mr. Mackie and Harry Hardy will launch next season. During the past season, it is stated that he has been very satisfactory.

Marie Alair is spending the Winter with her mother in Lexington, Ky.

Dollie Walbert, late of the "Charley's Aunt" Co., and recently with Wobert & Russell's Stars of Repertory Co., is very ill at her home in New York.

Allen H. Bailey joined the Jessie Mae Hall Co. Dec. 27, Fred K. Harm joined Dec. 28, and E. M. McCoy joined Dec. 23. Frank Grandon and Walter Dauphin left Dec. 21. Business reported to be good.

John W. Nichols has been engaged for Walter Jenkins' Company, to fill roles in his repertory.

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## PENNSYLVANIA

**Philadelphia.**—Business at our theatres last week was enormous, crowded houses being the rule all along the line. The current week presents many strong attractions and a few entire novelties which will doubtless place it on a level with the week just passed.

**ACADEMY OF MUSIC.**—The operas to be given this week by the Hinrichs Co. are "Faust," with Nevada as Marguerite, 6; "Hansel and Gretel," 7 and matinee 9; "William Tell," 8; and "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "Pagliacci," 9. Sousa's Band, with Myra French, soprano, and Carrie Duke, violinist, will give concerts 10 and 11. The operas last week drew fair sized audiences, the largest being on Friday night, when Henri Prevost appeared as Manrico, in "Il Trovatore." The new contralto, Leontina Dassi, also appeared as Azucena, but the quality of her voice was not greatly liked. The production of "Rigoletto," 10, was quite successful. Rosalie Nevada as Gilda, Louis De Becker as the Jester and Henri Prevost as the Duke.

**BROAD STREET THEATRE.**—Francis Wilson opens his fourth week last week in "The Merchant" with popularity apparently undiminished, and he will doubtless have a good month's business to his credit. Next week Lillian Russell, in "The Little Duke," Max O'Rell gives two lectures this week, afternoon of 7, "Her Royal Highness," and afternoon of 9, "American Society Up to Date."

**CHESTNUT STREET OPERA HOUSE.**—Augustus Piton's "Mme. Sans Gêne" comes for a fortnight. Henry Irving and Ellen Terry play to a capacity of the house all last week, smaller roles being often given to the stars. Many were disappointed at not seeing "Macbeth," but a return engagement is to be played April, when this play may be given. Rosalie Thompson, in "The Old Maid," 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, matinée Jan. 25.

**CHESTNUT STREET THEATRE.**—"Trilby" has opened its second and last week; this theatre is 6, and with little prospect of having any empty benches to play to. Every inch of standing room has been filled all the week. At the end of the week, the management here, Messrs. Nixon and Zimmerman take the play to the Park Theatre for two weeks. Next week, "Excellency."

**WALNUT STREET THEATRE.**—"Chiminey Faddeh" played by a company headed by Charles H. Hooper, a continuation for this week. Chauncey Olcott, in "Mavrovanni," drew packed houses last week. The popularity of this young actor seems great, but it is backed up by a competent company and liberal management. Next week, "The Merry Wives."

**PARK THEATRE.**—Amy Lee and Frank Doane play a return engagement in "Miss Harum Scarum," which was one of the greatest successes of this season at this theatre. The Merry Wives" had excellent business the past two weeks, and proved thoroughly enjoyable to those who saw it. Next week, "The New Moon."

**AUDITORIUM.**—The "New Meteors" Big Specialty Co. is Manager of the "Auditorium" and the "Auditorium" Fife and Drum Band. The company crowded the house every night, and those present voted the show a big success. Next week, Weber & Field's Vaudeville Club.

**NATIONAL THEATRE.**—Primrose and West's Minstrels in an attempt to get a good house.

**FROTHINGHAM.**—"The Story of a Great City" coming 8.

**DAVIS THEATRE.**—Edwin Forbush's "Forgiven" comes 24.

**BLAINE OPERA HOUSE.**—Himmlen's ideal did a very successful three weeks engagement and left 5 for Philadelphia.

**NOTE.**—Mona Wyne, vocalist, was obliged to close her business, having been ill with a severe attack of nervous and bronchial troubles, and is under treatment at the City Hospital.

**PHILADELPHIA.**—Francis Wilson opens his fourth week last week in "The Merchant" with popularity apparently undiminished, and he will doubtless have a good month's business to his credit. Next week Lillian Russell, in "The Little Duke," Max O'Rell gives two lectures this week, afternoon of 7, "Her Royal Highness," and afternoon of 9, "American Society Up to Date."

**WILKES-BARRE.**—At the Grand Opera House Primrose & West's Minstrels played to a fair house Dec. 30. "Lost in New York," 31, had light business. "The Fencing Master" packed the house on New Year's night. "The Old Homestead" had a very good house 2. A light house. "The Old Homestead" had very good house 3. Coming The Story of a Great City, 4. "The Speculator," 7; "The Cotton King," 5; "Das's N.Y. Co.," 6. "A Midsummer Night's Dream," 10, for "The Passing Show," 20, "On the Mississippi," 22.

**LIMA.**—K. Emmet Jan. 2, had a good house.

**CLINTON.**—"A Baggage Check," 6. Lewis Morrison, 9.

**NEW YORK.**—In "Darkness Russia" 4, Robert G. Ingersoll 15, "The Passing Show" 16.

**SCRANTON.**—At the Academy Thomas Q. Seabrooke comes Jan. 6, "The Cotton King," 7. "The Fencing Master," 4, was well received. John Kornell's "The Irish Arderman" 11, and a good house.

**DETROIT.**—"The Story of a Great City" coming 8.

**ERIE.**—At the Park "The Old Homestead" came 1, and had a packed house.

**GRAND OPERA HOUSE.**—"The Sparrow," of this city, has its first production on any stage this week. In the cast are Sir. George H. Dyer, Mrs. G. A. M. Hart, Phil Branson, Ethel Allen and Frank W. Moore. The house is under the direction of Harry Standish, and the proprietors are Henry Lierz and Otto Eick. Hi Henry's Minstrels did a very good business last week. The entire week was devoted to the benefit of the street railway employees.

**ALTOONA.**—At the Eleventh Avenue Opera House "Tim the Fink" did well Jan. 1, the only attraction for the week. This week, John Kornell comes 6, Panama Hall 7, Barry O'Neill 9, "The Black Crook," 10, St. Louis' "U. C. G." 11. "A Batch of Blunders" booked 8, canceled.

**HAMILTON.**—At the Edith Page, following attractions have been the same as last week. Alton Hartman, George Nelson, Shayne and Ward, Lew Randall, Helen Harrington, Billie Wells, Herr Schlam, and Prot Barry Mohr's dog show.

**LANCASER.**—At the Fulton Opera House "The Irish Arderman" came to good business Dec. 31. Ethel Ellis, in "A Batch of Blunders," came Jan. 1. Primrose & West's Minstrels had a packed house 2. Gozaleo Opera Co. large business. Booked: Tim Murphy, in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," 10, in "The Passing Show," 20, "On the Mississippi," 22.

**EWING.**—At the Able Opera House, Dec. 28, "Widow Bedot" came to fair business. Primrose & West's Minstrels had good business 31. "Jolly Old Chums," Jan. 1, had fair business. "Chiminey Faddeh" was the attraction in this city, and although the audiences at the People's were the last to greet it, they were by no means the least. Next week, "The Story of a Great City."

**DETROIT.**—"A Midsummer Night's Dream" is the attraction at this popular full downtown theatre for the current week. "My Jack" aroused great interest last week, and drew full houses. Next week, Carl Haswin, in "The Silver King."

**KINSEY THEATRE.**—The French Gaiety Girls are the current attraction at Manager Hart's theatre. "The White Crook" did fairly well last week. Gus Hill's All Star Co. comes 13.

**FAIRFIELD OPERA HOUSE.**—For the current week the Gillette Family in trick bicycle riding, Madame Flora, transformation artist, and the comedy, "Wanted, One Thousand Millionaires," are the leading items on the week's program.

**THE BIRDS.**—The Vaudreuil was a great success, and remain for the current week, heading a fine programme, which also includes Joseph W. Smith, the Bale Troupe, the Yokohama Troupe, Thorne and Carlton, George Evans and the Red Coats, the Gaiety Girls, the Gaiety Sisters, Harlan and Rollinson, the Savoy, Carlis and Clark, Ed. R. and Lillian Barton, Jino Salino, and Law and Matthews. Last week business was enormous. The past two weeks have been the greatest in the history of the house.

**THE LYCUM.**—Sam Devere's Own Company, including Omene, is Manager Jernon's attraction for the week. Last week, as usual, the theatre was crowded every night. "The White Crook" was a great success.

**GLOBE THEATRE.**—The London Show Burlesque Co. offers the entertainment for the current week at Managers Doyle & Scott's house. Last week the City Gaiety Girls gave an attractive entertainment to fair attendees.

**PEOPLES' THEATRE.**—"The Smugglers," by the same combination that was successful here last week, is the week's attraction. Last week, "Taken in Life" was in the usual manner, and drew full houses. George Leacock, Martha Jessie, Bonstelle and A. H. Stuart carried the interesting plot successfully, and were especially effective in their parts. Next week, "Man and Wife."

**PEOPLES' THEATRE.**—"Humanity," with Joseph Grimes and Phoebe Davis in the cast, is the current attraction. "Evelyn" is well received. Last week, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" was played a highly successful production, and the performances were largely attended. Harry Mainhall as Badger, Harry Davenport as Puffy and Lotta L. Linticum (nearly known as Lotta Lynne) as Alida were especially effective in their parts. Next week, "Man and Wife."

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**LYCUM THEATRE.**—There was presented at this house on Jan. 6, for the first time in this country, "The Benefit of the Doubt," a comedy, in three acts, by Arthur W. Pinero. This play was originally produced at the Comedy Theatre, London, on Oct. 16, 1895. It is another of those pestilential works of the garbage pile sort, with which this author has made a name, and which, if not here, has not been permitted to obtain a foothold upon our stage. We are more than weary of Mr. Pinero; he nauseates and disgusts us, and we enter upon the consideration of his works with the shudder of one who is about to encounter the poisoned atmosphere of a pest hospital. With much of repugnance, therefore, we pen the following synopsis of the story of this play: Theophila and Justina, daughters of Mrs. Empatage, a worldly minded and selfish woman, have been allowed to fulfil their desire of getting married, and are engaged in a pregnancy near to dissoluteness. There is no direct evidence that they have sinned, and some testimony, not unimpeachable, however, that they have not. They have, at least, become coarse, slangy and unwomanly. Theophila, who is the heroine of the story, or who, more properly speaking, affords occasion for it, has married Alexander Fraser, a Scotchman of sober habits, who prefers the quiet of his native place to the dissipations of London. The couple, Mrs. Fraser and Alexander, with him now this point, and he goes to Scotland, leaving her in London. Thus again left to follow her inclination, Mrs. Fraser seeks the companionship of her friend, or, John Allingham, a married man, whose wife is extremely jealous, and evidently not without sufficient cause. Mrs. Fraser and Jack have long been chums; she has gone to him with all her troubles, and he has sought her advice concerning the means to quiet the jealous rage of his wife. Their interview is protracted through the night, and, into the morning hours, with this turned low, and the fire in ashes, she smoking cigarettes and drinking goblets of champagne. In consequence of these frequent interviews Mrs. Allingham brings an action for judicial separation from her husband. The evidence presented in court is not sufficient, however, to establish her cause, and the judge, after severing her from the doubt and dilemma, the case, "I do not affirm at the time of my trial, whether or not I am in Mrs. Empatage's house, in the neighborhood of Regent's Park, London." Here the Empatage family are awaiting the outcome of the trial, and consternation falls upon them when Mrs. Fraser enters broken down with the shame and disgrace of her public rebuke. Mr. Fraser is both horrified and bewildered; while he may be, having been called from the quiet of his home in Scotland to behold his wife a convert to the cause of Jack, he asks for time to think, and his wife demands an instant decision concerning their future course. She cares naught for his opinion concerning her guilt or innocence; all that she desires is that he will pretend to believe her guiltless, that they may crawl back into society again. He refuses his consent to this plan and wants to take her abroad, but she spurns his suggestion and determines to desert him and flee to Paris, there to drown herself in dissipation. She must have more, however, and she writes to Jack, asking for an interview upon a matter of business. Jack is in a dilemma, but Mrs. Allingham is more than equal to the occasion. She insists that Jack shall grant Mrs. Fraser the interview while she (Mrs. Allingham) listens to their conversation from a place of concealment in an adjoining room. Jack refuses to be party to such a transaction, but his wife diplomatically explains that thus she will be able to prove the innocence of Mrs. Fraser, and may at last be permitted to go abroad with all her friends. Like a cad, Jack yields his consent, and Mrs. Fraser comes. She wishes to borrow from him £50, and, having made the request, she sinks, fainting in a chair. Jack revives her and offers her champagne. She tosses off a brilliant measure and is her old self again. She must drink more wine, and drink she does until she is drunken and behaves in a most indecorous manner, finally throwing herself on Jack's chest and beseeching him to take her away. He has no choice but to do all that Mrs. Fraser desires, and the trick that has been played upon her falls senseless to the door, a result to which drunkenness and chagrin have alike contributed. When she awakens from her drunken sleep Mrs. Allingham begs her pardon and is forgiven. Then comes Mrs. Fraser's aunt, Mrs. Cloys, whose husband is a bishop, and proposes that her niece shall come and reside with her, and thus get her reputation repaired, expressing at the same time the cheerful hope that she will be a good girl if at last induced to return to her home as the result of two evils. The proposition is accepted, and as Mr. and Mrs. Allingham clasp hands the curtain falls, leaving us in doubt concerning the state of mind of Mrs. Fraser, for Mr. Pinero has formed the habit of forgetting the existence of good people. This play, like all of Mr. Pinero's later works, is utterly lacking in value, and offers no compensation whatever for the strain it imposes upon our patience. We have been told that it is wonderfully faithful in its drawings of character. Were this true, it would be a good play. Unfortunately, however, it is not true, for his drawing is never complete. In this play, as in many others from his pen, he has introduced to us a conglomeration of foos, and in real life it would be almost impossible to bring together so great a number of people showing so small an average of common sense or redeeming graces of mind or heart. Moreover, we reiterate the charge that Mr. Pinero wilfully endeavors to put forward and falsehood in the purest truth. He is worse than a knave in his devious endeavor to mislead and to mislead. In this play, as in many others, he might as well refer to his judgment by partial statements and by concealing evidence. He would have us believe that Mrs. Fraser and Jack had merely been indiscreet in their dark scenes, but he shows us that with very slight indulgence in intoxicants Mrs. Fraser becomes in indulgence in intoxicants, and indeed assumes the role, and at the same time he proves to us that Jack is a contemptuous cad. In whose breast there is no room for the honest and honest to bring her safety. But it is less to do with this play; it is the embodiment of falsehood and of special pleading. It may deceive those who find thinking too laborious a task. Its false sentiment may be palatable to those who seek encouragement for their selfish sins, but it cannot for a moment deceive those who are capable of right thinking or who incline to right doing. We know nothing of Mr. Pinero's social life apart from the fact that he is wealthy and successful. He may further than that be a scoundrel. Mr. Pinero's sins of the flesh are too numerous to list, and his utterances suggest that some grimes are hanging at an altitude to which alone the aspirations of this modern Haman can reach. It is useless longer to speak of his skill, except to lament his misapplication, for we might just as well refer to his incompleteness to the work of one who deftly opens our eyes and purifies our minds. 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Marguerita, contortionist; Nannie Brothers, eccentrics; Alton, acrobatic; Peter and Pauline, acrobatic; Mark Woley, in German sketches; Dr. Witt Sisters, instrumental musicians; Lydia Dreams, a clever ventriloquist; Miss Maurier, Dan O'Brien and Nettie Collins, in a comedy; Eddie and Eddie, comedians; Formes and Quin, music and dancing, and La Main Brothers, acrobats. Hyde's Comedians come here next week.

AMPHION.—Chamney O'Connor began an engagement here 6, in "The Irish Artist's" drama, "The Irish Artist." The opening was well received. Big business last week. "The Old Homestead" comes 13-14.

EMPIRE.—"The White Rat," which won popular success in the Winter District, is here for a week's stay. The opening house was large. Good business last week.

"Down on the Suwanee River" is the attraction booked for week of 13.

GATEWAY.—A change is this week made from the former policy of the house. Hitmen are now to be admitted to the house, and the box office is open to all visitors, and fare comedies. This week the house offers its patrons a strange farce in "Charley's Aunt," which as everybody knows, is a comedy. The box office is open to all visitors, and the size of the house is well suited to that.

The management has not made a mistake in the experiment. Good business last week. Sandow and the Tropicadero Vaudevilles will be here week of 13.

LYRIC.—A new attraction is booked upon N. S. Wood's recent appearance here, at the head of the stock company. He has induced him to play a return engagement. He is seen this week in the heroic character in "The Boy Scout." A big house was present 6. The audiences last week were well received. "Walls of New York" will be presented week of 13.

UNIQUE.—Sattler's Burlesque Co. opened 6, to a big house. A musical satire entitled "The Gaiety Reception" was well received. The company, who also includes Murphy and Gilbert, Family Beauchamps, the Gleasons, Sheffer and Blakely, Lamont and Love, Smith and Regan, Stanley and Schuman, and the Mimie Four. Good business last week. Blushard Burlesque Co. is due 12-13.

NOTES.—"Faust" was the piece selected by Messrs. Abey & Gran for Jan. 7, at the Academy of Music....Franklin, the violinist, and his wife, the pianist, and the orchestra, their entire apparatus, will remain in the National Athletic Club, at Brooklyn, N. Y., on Dec. 22. They are to be tendered a testimonial benefit Jan. 23, to be given under the auspices of the club.

Buffalo.—At the Star Theatre "A Midsummer Night's Dream" occupies attention Jan. 6-8. "A Texas Steer" 9-11. E. M. and Joseph Holland 16-18. Annie Winslet met with considerable encouragement in her venture here last week, having appeared in "Pygmalion" and "Galatea," "Ingrid" and Shakespeare roles, supported by Eben Plympton. Our young actress' work bespeaks earnest study and progress.

CONCERT HALL.—The Cornell Glee Club had a brilliant season, and were excellent.

MUSIC HALL.—"The St. Louis Dramatic Circle, of this present, "The Signal" 7. "The Mosaic" was given 5. Cheiro, the palmist, is booked here early this month. We have holding receptions at our big hotels, and is the tour talk. The Metropolitan Opera Co. come in March.

LYRIC THEATRE.—Lizzie Evans, in "Coon Hollow," this week, and Robert Brower returns next week.

COURT STREET THEATRE.—Irwin Bros. this week. Rose Hill Opera Co. follows 13 and week. Sam T. Jackson's "Bull Fighters" drew well.

SHIRLEY THEATRE.—Mrs. Stuart, the Charles, Val Vino, Bernard Sisters, Fred Mclellan, the St. Elmo, Bessie Berle, the Harringtons, Seaville and Valentine.

BLUJOU THEATRE.—James A. Reilly, in "A German Soldier," this week.

Albany.—The holiday season brought out all our theatres past the week. At the Leland Opera House "The White Squadron" came 30, to a big house. "A Midsummer Night's Dream" was presented 33, Jan. 1. Barbara Ferrier and St. George Huntley appeared in "Midsummer Night's Dream" and commanded a very sized house. "The Fast Mail," 3, 4, played to an average attendance. Dan McCarthy's "The Crumskine Lawn," comes 6-8. "The Two Johns" 9, 10. "A Trip to Chinatown" 11. "Widow Bedott" 12-13.

HARVARD BLECKER HALL.—Cafe' amused a small audience Dec. 31. John Drew appeared for two performances Jan. 1, in "Christopher Jr." and met with great favor. The house was taken up in the early evenings of the season. Cissy Fitzgerald, in "The Foundling," comes for a return engagement 7; Sousa's Band 13.

COOK OPERA HOUSE.—"McCarthy's Mishaps" began a three nights' stay, when follows Gus Hill's "Novelties for the winter" half of the week. "The Cruikshank Lawn" played to fair audiences, but, 4. "White Squadron" is due 13-15. Chas. T. Ellis 15-16.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—"One of the Bravest" came 6, making a week's stay. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" played to good patronage last week. "A Cracker Jack" comes 13-18.

WONDERLAND THEATRE has the following names on its programme for this week: Jules and Ella Garrison, Jordan and Williamson, Canfield and Carrollton, and Frank Hall and Larry Tookey.

TROY.—At the Griswold Opera House "McCarthy's Mishaps" had fair houses Dec. 30, 31. "The White Squadron" packed the house Jan. 1. "A Black Sheep" drew big houses 3, 4. Murray and Mack, in "Finnigan's Ball," came 8-9. "The Tornado" 10, Garrick Burlesque Co. in.

RAND'S OPERA HOUSE.—"Agnes" her husband, in "Captain Kato, or a Night's Fright," packed the house Dec. 31. John Drew played to the largest house of the season at the end of his engagement, "Christopher Jr." Salamo and Clive's Co. come 10, 11.

GAETY THEATRE.—"The Burglar" had very satisfactory attendance. "The Widow Bedott" is due 10, 11. "A Social Highwayman" 13.

H. R. JACOB'S THEATRE.—The Washburn Sisters had large business Dec. 30-31. "The Tornado" did well 2-4.

To come: "The White Squadron" 6-8. "A Run on the Bank" 9-11.

Binghamton.—At Stone Opera House the Mac Kay Opera Co. in repertory, came Dec. 31-Jan. 4, to large and well pleased audiences. To come: "Thrifty" 9.

BLUJOU THEATRE.—"Old Maine" came Dec. 30-Jan. 1, to good business. Coming: "Thrifty" 8. "A Trip to China" 10-11. "The Tornado" 12-13.

UTICA FAMILY THEATRE.—Last week's attractions drew well. Parisian Folly Co. comes 6-11.

Newburg.—At the Academy of Music the Maude Hillman Comedy Co. put up an extraordinary good show here last week, the result of which was S. R. O. The house was taken up in the evenings, and the box office broke the record of the house for large attendance at popular prices. "A Trip to Chinatown" comes 14-15. The Burton Comedy Co. will occupy Columbus Hall this week, Jan. 6-10, with privilege of the house. The "Pay Bookings" 11-12. "The Pay Train" 13. "The Madeline" 14-15. "The Fast Mail" 16-18.

Elmira.—At the Lyceum Theatre "The Fencing Master" was the attraction Dec. 31, to S. R. O. Stuart Robson, in "Forbidden Fruit," packed the house Jan. 1. "The Home-tread" came 2, to good business. MacKay's Opera Co. commenced a week's engagement 6.

TEXAS.

GALVESTON.—At the Grand Opera House Richards & Pringle's Georgia Minstrels had good sized houses Dec. 23, at matines and night. De Wolf Hopper, in "Dr. Syntax," at advanced prices, was enthusiastically received by the biggest house of the season 27, and a good sized audience at matinee 28. Donnelly and Gilham, in "The Rainmakers," pleased good sized houses 30. Billie Sklar, in "The Pay Train" 21. "The Madeline" 22. "The Fast Mail" 22, "Richard Mansfield" 23.

AUSTIN.—At Millett's Opera House "The Derby Winner" came 27, to fair sized house. "The Old Homestead" gave two performances to good business 3. The Gaiety, in "The Girl I Left Behind Me" had good sized house Jan. 1. Coming: Salvin 10, "The Girl I Left Behind Me" 11. Grau's Opera Co. comes 13-15.

ARKANSAS.

Hot Springs.—At the Opera House, Dec. 21, Corinne was greeted by a large and enthusiastic audience. Creston Clarke, 30, presented "Hamlet" to a fair sized house. Booked: "The Scout" Jan. 4. "The Girl I Left Behind Me" 7. Donnelly and Gilard 10, "Yale's 'Twelve Temptations'" 14. Ota Skinner 15.

TACOMA.—At Tacoma Theatre Schilling's Minstrels, Dec. 25, came to a packed house. Joe Cawthorne, 26, 27, had good business. "The Deader" 28. Bill had full house. Then W. Keene comes Jan. 17, 18. Eddie Elsner, 22, 23. Katie Putnam 27, the "Pay Train" 28. "The Temptations" 14. Ota Skinner 15.

WASHINGTON.

Spokane.—At the Auditorium "The Defaulter" came to a packed house Dec. 23. Henry E. Dixey played to good business 19, 20. Coming: Eddie Elsner Jan. 11. Then W. Keene 13-15. Joe Cawthorne 17.

PEOPLES.—New faces week of Dec. 30: Ruth Hastings, Flory and Turron, Amelita Guero, Chandler and Lorrie, and Mabel Livingston.

NEW YORK CITY.—At the Lodge, B. P. O. Elks, gave its annual benefit performance at the Auditorium New Year's Eve, to a packed house.

LITTLE ROCK.—At Capital Theatre Creston Clarke came 30, Jan. 1, to a packed house. "The Girl I Left Behind Me" 2. Donnelly and Gilard 11, "Yale's 'Twelve Temptations'" 14. Ota Skinner 15.

MISSOURI.

Kansas City.—The event of the last week was the appearance of the Darmstet German Grand Opera Company at the Auditorium, Jan. 3-4. "The Meistersinger," "The Walkure" and at the matinee "Lohengrin" were the bills presented, and the business was decidedly successful. Prof. S. Kronberg, the local manager, cannot be given too much praise for his efforts to secure this attraction, and it is due to his personal labor that the engagement proved such a financial success.

COASTERS' HOUSE.—Last week Anna Eva Fay played a three nights' stay, and the matinees return, engaging all principal features and adding new men, returning to the company. New and elaborate scenery was painted by Sosman and Landis, and will be hung this week. New special paper has been added to the advertising matter for the play, "A Trip to the Circus." An entire new route is now being booked by Agents Howard and Doyle. The roster: Tom Russo, leader band and orchestra; Lillian Herndon, diverse vocalists; Chas. Nichols, wife king; Bert Thompson, the novelist; A. J. Bosell, stage director; E. A. Bratt and Jack Supple, stage team; W. B. Christie, Irish comedy; Wm. Hill, contortionist; J. Roe, B. Cole, T. Romaine, Lee Hallinan, H. Livingston, W. McAdams, W. J. Turner, W. J. Cosper, H. R. Brown, heavy weight lifter; Astern Sisters, Geo. and Allie Bellfords, aerialists; Rider and May, clowns; Myrtle Owen, Louise Edmunds, Elsie Fay, Mile, Cereto, Col. Ham, Louise, sole proprietor; James McKeown, manager; Hill Water, representative; Bert Cole, the trap drum master; and other special stage settings are carried.

Notes from Marks Bros., Dramatic Co.: "A Midsummer Night's Dream" occupies attention Jan. 6-8. "A Texas Steer" 9-11. E. M. and Joseph Holland 16-18. Annie Winslet met with considerable encouragement in her venture here last week, having appeared in "Pygmalion" and "Galatea," "Ingrid" and Shakespeare roles, supported by Eben Plympton. Our young actress' work bespeaks earnest study and progress.

CONCERT HALL.—The Cornell Glee Club had a brilliant season, and were excellent.

MUSIC HALL.—"The St. Louis Dramatic Circle, of this present, "The Signal" 7. "The Mosaic" was given 5. Cheiro, the palmist, is booked here early this month. We have holding receptions at our big hotels, and is the tour talk. The Metropolitan Opera Co. come in March.

LYRIC THEATRE.—Lizzie Evans, in "Coon Hollow," this week, and Robert Brower returns next week.

COURT STREET THEATRE.—Irwin Bros. this week. Rose Hill Opera Co. follows 13 and week. Sam T. Jackson's "Bull Fighters" drew well.

SHIRLEY THEATRE.—Mrs. Stuart, the Charles, Val Vino, Bernard Sisters, Fred Mclellan, the St. Elmo, Bessie Berle, the Harringtons, Seaville and Valentine.

BLUJOU THEATRE.—James A. Reilly, in "A German Soldier," this week.

Albany.—The holiday season brought out all our theatres past the week. At the Leland Opera House "The White Squadron" came 30, to a big house. "A Midsummer Night's Dream" was presented 33, Jan. 1. Barbara Ferrier and St. George Huntley appeared in "Midsummer Night's Dream" and commanded a very sized house. "The Fast Mail," 3, 4, played to an average attendance. Dan McCarthy's "The Crumskine Lawn," comes 6-8. "The Two Johns" 9, 10. "A Trip to Chinatown" 11. "Widow Bedott" 12-13.

HARVARD BLECKER HALL.—Cafe' amused a small audience Dec. 31. John Drew appeared for two performances Jan. 1, in "Christopher Jr." and met with great favor. The house was taken up in the early evenings of the season. Cissy Fitzgerald, in "The Foundling," comes for a return engagement 7; Sousa's Band 13.

COOK OPERA HOUSE.—"McCarthy's Mishaps" began a three nights' stay, when follows Gus Hill's "Novelties for the winter" half of the week. "The Cruikshank Lawn" played to fair audiences, but, 4. "White Squadron" is due 13-15. Chas. T. Ellis 15-16.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—"One of the Bravest" came 6, making a week's stay. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" played to good patronage last week. "A Cracker Jack" comes 13-18.

WONDERLAND THEATRE has the following names on its programme for this week: Jules and Ella Garrison, Jordan and Williamson, Canfield and Carrollton, and Frank Hall and Larry Tookey.

TROY.—At the Griswold Opera House "McCarthy's Mishaps" had fair houses Dec. 30, 31. "The White Squadron" packed the house Jan. 1. "A Black Sheep" drew big houses 3, 4. Murray and Mack, in "Finnigan's Ball," came 8-9. "The Tornado" 10, Garrick Burlesque Co. in.

RAND'S OPERA HOUSE.—"Agnes" her husband, in "Captain Kato, or a Night's Fright," packed the house Dec. 31. John Drew played to the largest house of the season at the end of his engagement, "Christopher Jr." Salamo and Clive's Co. come 10, 11.

GAETY THEATRE.—"The Burglar" had very satisfactory attendance. "The Widow Bedott" is due 10, 11. "A Social Highwayman" 13.

H. R. JACOB'S THEATRE.—The Washburn Sisters had large business Dec. 30-31. "The Tornado" did well 2-4.

To come: "The White Squadron" 6-8. "A Run on the Bank" 9-11.

Binghamton.—At Stone Opera House the Mac Kay Opera Co. in repertory, came Dec. 31-Jan. 4, to large and well pleased audiences. To come: "Thrifty" 9.

BLUJOU THEATRE.—"Old Maine" came Dec. 30-Jan. 1, to good business. Coming: "Thrifty" 8. "A Trip to China" 10-11. "The Tornado" 12-13.

UTICA FAMILY THEATRE.—Last week's attractions drew well. Parisian Folly Co. comes 6-11.

Newburg.—At the Academy of Music the Maude Hillman Comedy Co. put up an extraordinary good show here last week, the result of which was S. R. O. The house was taken up in the evenings, and the box office broke the record of the house for large attendance at popular prices. "A Trip to Chinatown" comes 14-15. The Burton Comedy Co. will occupy Columbus Hall this week, Jan. 6-10, with privilege of the house. The "Pay Bookings" 11-12. "The Madeline" 13-14. "The Fast Mail" 15-16.

Elmira.—At the Lyceum Theatre "The Fencing Master" was the attraction Dec. 31, to S. R. O. Stuart Robson, in "Forbidden Fruit," packed the house Jan. 1. "The Home-tread" came 2, to good business. MacKay's Opera Co. commenced a week's engagement 6.

TEXAS.

GALVESTON.—At the Grand Opera House Richards & Pringle's Georgia Minstrels had good sized houses Dec. 23, at matines and night. De Wolf Hopper, in "Dr. Syntax," at advanced prices, was enthusiastically received by the biggest house of the season 27, and a good sized audience at matinee 28. Donnelly and Gilham, in "The Rainmakers," pleased good sized houses 30. Billie Sklar, in "The Pay Train" 21. "The Madeline" 22. "The Fast Mail" 22, "Richard Mansfield" 23.

AUSTIN.—At Millett's Opera House "The Derby Winner" came 27, to fair sized house. "The Old Homestead" gave two performances to good business 3. The Gaiety, in "The Girl I Left Behind Me" had good sized house Jan. 1. Coming: Salvin 10, "The Girl I Left Behind Me" 11. Grau's Opera Co. comes 13-15.

ARKANSAS.

Hot Springs.—At the Opera House, Dec. 21, Corinne was greeted by a large and enthusiastic audience. Creston Clarke, 30, presented "Hamlet" to a fair sized house. Booked: "The Scout" Jan. 4. "The Girl I Left Behind Me" 7. Donnelly and Gilard 10, "Yale's 'Twelve Temptations'" 14. Ota Skinner 15.

TACOMA.—At Tacoma Theatre Schilling's Minstrels, Dec. 25, came to a packed house. Joe Cawthorne, 26, 27, had good business. "The Deader" 28. Bill had full house. Then W. Keene comes Jan. 17, 18. Eddie Elsner, 22, 23. Katie Putnam 27, the "Pay Train" 28. "The Temptations" 14. Ota Skinner 15.

WASHINGTON.

Spokane.—At the Auditorium "The Defaulter" came to a packed house Dec. 23. Henry E. Dixey played to good business 19, 20. Coming: Eddie Elsner Jan. 11. Then W. Keene 13-15. Joe Cawthorne 17.

PEOPLES.—New faces week of Dec. 30: Ruth Hastings, Flory and Turron, Amelita Guero, Chandler and Lorrie, and Mabel Livingston.

NEW YORK CITY.—At the Lodge, B. P. O. Elks, gave its annual benefit performance at the Auditorium New Year's Eve, to a packed house.

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## BASEBALL, CRICKET, ETC.

C. F. R.—The National League, at the close of the championship season of 1886, abolished the rule allowing the batsman the privilege of calling for a high or low ball.

T. W., Brooklyn.—The first team to defeat in two out of three games the then acknowledged champion team became nominally entitled to the championship prior to 1871, when the first professional association was formed.

J. H. F., Philadelphia.—The batsman, although run out, was entitled to one run for the "no ball" then bowled to him, and the score consequently stood a tie.

C. Q.—They have not been completed yet. See theatrical answers.

## CARDS.

G., Galveston.—It would not be necessary for the player to do so. All that is required is that he place his discard in the proper discard pile, where it may be referred to in case of subsequent dispute.

W. V. D., Racine.—Every player in the game is entitled to draw five cards if he so desires.

E. P., New York.—In the game of draw poker the deal is performed by giving to each player five cards, one at a time, beginning with the player next to the left of the dealer.

A. C. B., Mondon.—Not unless he turned it up in the deal, when it counts at once.

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## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS.

## National, American, Union, Players and Other Organizations.

The indications all point toward this as being the most profitable year in the history of the national game. The past year was a good one in every sense of the word, but the present will probably surpass it financially, as well as in the number of different organizations. New leagues and associations are being formed all over the country, while most of the old ones of last year have been reorganized. It is in the minor leagues that the young players take their preparatory lesson, before entering the major league. Last season proved a good one for the ambitious young player. Many of them found their way into the parent organization at the close of the past championship season. Some of them had only one season's practice, which certainly speaks well for the training they received. It is not often that we hear of young players being able to hold their own after one season in a minor league, but such was the case in several instances last year. Of course, many of the young players who have been drafted from the minor leagues by the clubs of the major league will not be retained after the Spring practice season, unless they show worth them, if the club which has drafted them has an auxiliary in one of the minor leagues, the players will be transferred there to be developed for future use for the club drafting them. A great many of these youngsters came from the clubs of the Virginia League, which certainly speaks well for that organization, but it is not believed at this early date that many of them will be found to be fast enough for the major league after being given a trial, although most of those from the Eastern, Western and Southern Leagues will do better than those from the Virginia League. The reason of this is that the men of these leagues, as a rule, have had more experience than the others. Players of classes like the Virginia and others of this class are generally picked up from city leagues, or semi-professional or country teams, and therefore come to the front sooner in a league of the class of the Virginia than they do in one like the Eastern or Western.

Last year there were fifteen or more prominent minor leagues. Some of them went through the entire season without the loss of a club, while others went through with only a few of the original clubs, and others still with the road side. Undoubtedly there will be more leagues in the field this year than ever before. Several of those of last year will not be reorganized this year, but new ones will take their places, and games will be played in every city in the country of any size, or, for that matter, every town and village that can support a team. First comes the National League and American Association, which came into existence during the Winter of 1881-82, at a meeting held at Indianapolis, Ind., by the consolidation of the two leading organizations, the National League being the older of the two. It was organized at a meeting held Feb. 2, 1876, in this city, by delegates from the following professional clubs: Athletic of Philadelphia; Boston, Hartford, Mutual, of New York, in the East, and Chicago, Cincinnati, and St. Louis, in the West. The National League during its first championship season had no rival organization to divide the interest in baseball with, as was the case later on. The championship that year was won by the Chicago Club, which presented to the league the following year: Farrow, Mathew, and Fennell, catchers; McVey, Barnes, and White, pitchers; A. C. Mulligan, pitcher; McVey, Barnes, and White, on the bases; Peters, short stop, and Glenn, Hines and Addy, in the outfield, with Bielski and Andrus, substitutes. The league had its circuit reduced to five clubs for the season of 1877, the Athletic, Mutual and Cincinnati Clubs were the ones that dropped out, leaving Boston and Hartford as the Eastern representatives, and Chicago, Louisville and St. Louis as the Western clubs. The Hartford won the championship with the following team: Levy, Brown, catcher; Thomas Bond, pitcher; James D. Jones, George Wright and John Morrell on the bases; Ezra Sutton, short stop; Andy Leonard, J. H. O'Rourke and H. Schaefer, in the outfield, with T. H. Murnane and W. White, substitutes. That year the league had a rival in the field in the International Association, which was organized at a meeting held Feb. 20, that year, at Pittsburgh, Pa., by delegates representing professional clubs located in the United States and Canada. The contesting teams were the Atlantic, Central, and Western Leagues, of Columbus, O.; Live Oaks, of Lyons, Mo.; the Robusters and Manchesters, and the Tecumsehs of London, and the Maple Leaf, of Guelph, Ont. The Tecumsehs won the championship of their association with the following team: Powers, catcher; Goldsmith, pitcher; Bradley, Dinnin, and Docher, on the bases; Somers, short stop, and Hornung, Magnard and Knudsch, in the outfield, with Reid and Spencer, substitutes. The League Alliance had its circuit increased to twelve clubs, taking in Brooklyn and Washington, in the East and Indianapolis and Toledo, in the West. The Metropolitans won the championship with the following team: Holbert and Rapschlaguer, catchers; Keefe and Lynch, pitchers; Orr, Troy and Estebrook, on the bases; Nelson, short stop, and Kennedy, Roseman and Brady, in the outfield. Grace Pierce also played in a few games. The Trenton Club, which won the championship of the Eastern League, The New England League, which was composed of twelve clubs, seemed to prosper until more than half of the season had been played. Then began a stampede and club after club disbanded until only four remained. Finally two of these four quit, and the two remaining ones Milwaukee and St. Paul, joined the Union Association. The Ohio State League was formed that year, and included many professional and semi-professional clubs in different sections of the country. The St. Paul Club, which was credited with winning the championship with the following team: Gross, catcher; Salisbury, pitcher; Gant, Miller and Ely, on the bases; McClellan, short stop, and Ely, A. Allison and Scott in the outfield.

In 1878 the National League circuit was increased to six clubs. The Hartford, Louisville and St. Louis clubs retired, Providence taking the place of Hartford, giving the East still two clubs, Boston and Springfield. The Iron and Oil League disbanded before mid-year, and the Union Association clubs located at Altoona, Baltimore, Philadelphia and Washington, in the East, and Chicago, Cincinnati and St. Louis, in the West. Only five of the original clubs finished the season. Altoona disbanded early in the season and the Kansas City Club took its place. Later on Milwaukee and St. Paul helped to finish out the schedule of games. The Chicago team won the pennant with the following team: Baker, Brennan and Warden, catchers; Boyle, Sweeney, Hodnett and Gleason, on the bases; Whitehead, short stop; Boyle, Hines and Ward, in the outfield. Grace Pierce also played in a few games. The Trenton Club, which won the championship of the Eastern League, The New England League, which was composed of twelve clubs, seemed to prosper until more than half of the season had been played. Then began a stampede and club after club disbanded until only four remained. Finally two of these four quit, and the two remaining ones Milwaukee and St. Paul, joined the Union Association. The Ohio State League finished the season, but only three of the six original clubs remained. These were Dayton, Hamilton and Springfield, and Lowell, Mass., and Hartford, Conn. The Iron and Oil League disbanded before mid-year, and the Union Association clubs located at Altoona, Baltimore, Philadelphia and Washington, in the East, and Chicago, Cincinnati and St. Louis, in the West. Only five of the original clubs finished the season. Altoona disbanded early in the season and the Kansas City Club took its place. Later on Milwaukee and St. Paul helped to finish out the schedule of games. The Chicago team won the pennant with the following team: Baker, Brennan and Warden, catchers; Boyle, Sweeney, Hodnett and Gleason, on the bases; Whitehead, short stop; Boyle, Hines and Ward, in the outfield. Grace Pierce also played in a few games. The Trenton Club, which won the championship of the Eastern League, The New England League, which was composed of twelve clubs, seemed to prosper until more than half of the season had been played. Then began a stampede and club after club disbanded until only four remained. Finally two of these four quit, and the two remaining ones Milwaukee and St. Paul, joined the Union Association. The Ohio State League was formed that year, and included many professional and semi-professional clubs in different sections of the country. The St. Paul Club, which was credited with winning the championship with the following team: Gross, catcher; Salisbury, pitcher; Gant, Miller and Ely, on the bases; McClellan, short stop, and Ely, A. Allison and Scott in the outfield.

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In 1881 a change was made in the Western circuit of the National League. Cincinnati retired and Boston was selected to fill its place. The league included Boston, Providence, Worcester, and Troy in the East, and Buffalo, Chicago, Cleveland and Detroit in the West. Chicago again won the pennant with the same team as it had during the preceding year. The Eastern Association was organized April 11, 1881, by the Metropolitan, New York and Quicksell Clubs of this city; Atlantic, of Brooklyn; Athletic of Philadelphia and Nationals, of Washington. The Metropolitans, who had the best record, presented the following team: Hayes; Morgan, D. Sullivan and Powers, catchers; Daly, Powers and McVey, pitchers; Estebrook, Brady and Maiden, on the bases; Quinn, and Kennedy, Clinton and Roseman in the outfield. Nelson and Thos. Mansell also played short stop and centre field respectively. The American Association, the most formidable rival of the National League ever had, was organized at a meeting held Nov. 2, 1881, at Cincinnati, O., with the following clubs represented: Athletic of Philadelphia, and Baltimore, in the East and Allegheny of Pittsburgh; Cincinnati, Eclipse, of Louisville, and St. Louis in the West. The make up of the National League circuit for 1881 was the same as the preceding year. Chicago won the pennant again with about the same team that had won it during the preceding two years, except that Nicol was the substitute, playing part of the sea-on at right field. The Cincinnati Club won the championship that season of the American Association with the following team: Snyder, catcher; W. White and Henry McCruck, pitchers; Luff, McPhee and Carpenter, on the bases; Fuiner, short stop, and Sommer, Macular and Wheeler in the outfield. Powers and Remmert also played in the new game, and engaged with the team. The Metropolitans, of Philadelphia, formed a League Alliance. Only these two clubs competed for the championship, the former winning with the following team: Clapp and Reuschel, catchers; Lynch and O'Neil, pitchers; Reilly, Larkin and Hankinson, on the bases; Nelson, short stop, and Kennedy, T. Mansell and Brady in the outfield. Another Northwestern League was organized Oct. 27, 1882, at Chicago, Ill., and was made up of clubs located at Peoria, Quincy and Springfield, Ill.; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Grand Rapids and East Grand Rapids, Mich.; Fort Wayne, Indiana, and O. The Interstate Association was formed at a meeting held Nov. 9, 1882, at Reading, Pa., and included the following clubs: Actives, of Reading; Anthracite of Pottsville, and Harrisburg, of Harrisburg, Pa.; Merritt, of Camden, N. J.; Brooklyn, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Quicksell, of Wilmington, Del., which made the professional season of 1883 look very encouraging. Several changes were made in the National League's circuit for 1883. Troy and Worcester dropped out, and New York and Philadelphia were admitted in their places. The League circuit then included Boston, Providence, New York and Philadelphia, in the East, and Buffalo, Detroit, Cleveland and Chicago, in the West. Boston won the championship with the following team: Hackett and Hines, catchers; Bullock and Way, pitchers; Morris, Burdick and Sutton, on the bases; Wise, short stop, and Horning, Smith and Radford, in the outfield. The Findlay (O.) Club, in 1894 as a pitcher. He made a very fine showing that season, also making several excellent pitching records for himself. The most noteworthy of these was in game with the Clinton (O.) team, when he held the latter to one safe hit and retired seven of the men on strikes. The Interstate won the championship that season of the Interstate Association, with the following team: Farrow, and Corcoran, catchers; Terry and Kimber, pitchers; Householder, Greenwood and Fenelle, on the bases; Geddes, short stop, and St. John, and Walker, in the outfield. The Steves, Stricker and B. Foster, on the bases; Movchan, short stop and Burchall, Blakiston and Knight, in the outfield. Crowley played in the field during part of the season and Balekey and Joes also took part in several games, filling the pitcher's position. The Interstate won the championship that season of the Interstate Association, with the following team: Farrow, and Corcoran, catchers; Terry and Kimber, pitchers; Householder, Greenwood and Fenelle, on the bases; Geddes, short stop, and St. John, and Walker, in the outfield. The Steves, Stricker and B. Foster, on the bases; Movchan, short stop and Burchall, Blakiston and Knight, in the outfield. 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James Dean, '97, has been elected captain of next season's Harvard University team. A change in Harvard's baseball policy for this year will be the arrangement of exhibition games with strong professional teams.

Thomas York, the veteran player and manager, has an option on the franchise for Hartford, Ct., in the Atlantic Association. The new association should be a go. It appears to have some good hustling men behind it.

Jacob Hoy, father of outfielder W. E. Hoy, of the Cincinnati Club, of the National League and American Association, died Jan. 2, at Findlay, O., in the seventy-fifth year of his age.

The Harvard University and Princeton College teams have decided on the following dates and places for the games between the two colleges: May 9, at Princeton, N. J.; May 30, at Cambridge, Mass.; June 10, at Princeton; June 18, at Cambridge. On June 27, in case of a tie, a game will be played on neutral grounds.

## CRICKET.

The handsome club house of the Merion Club at Haverford, Pa., with all its contents, was destroyed by fire of unknown origin, Saturday evening, Jan. 4. The recently erected Casino adjoining the club house was also burned down. The total loss is estimated at about \$75,000, and is nearly covered by insurance. The fire was discovered in 10:30 p. m. in the store room in the basement, under the stairway of the main entrance of the club house, and the only theory advanced as to the cause of the fire is that the wire in the power circuit was short-circuited by spontaneous combustion. The most serious loss to the Merion Club was the number of trophies and relics destroyed, including three silver cups, the framed charter of the club, the framed original resolutions adopted by the founders of the club in 1865, and the bat presented by W. G. Grace to John B. Thayer Jr. in recognition of a wonderful catch made by the latter in London, Eng. A meeting of the directors of the Merion Club was held Jan. 5, when steps were taken towards securing temporary quarters for the winter.

An ENGLISH exchange is responsible for the following: "Phil May" known more of dressing up than of cricket, one with a sensitive looking carefully at his picture of a cricket match in Punch's Almanac. The drawing so preyed upon the nerves of W. G. Grace that he determined to protest. So, when Phil May arrived at his office the other evening he found a telegram awaiting him: 'Why, on why, does square leg wear wicket-keeping gloves?'—W. G. Grace." At about midnight Phil May came out into Fleet Street and thought he would send an answer. So he went into the teatime office and said to the man at the desk, 'What's the address?' remarked that it was some miles from Bristol, and a special messenger would be required, 'All right,' said May, 'send it off at once!' And at about 2:30 on a bleak December morning the champion cricketer was awakened from his first sleep and from his bed to read the reply: 'To keep his hands warm—Phil May.'

We ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of "Wisden's Cricketers' Almanac" for 1896, published by John Wisden & Co., 21 Cranbourn Street, London, Eng. The thirty-third edition of this well known annual is again edited by Sydney H. Pardon, who has cleverly compiled an accurate record of the season's doings with a full and lucidly descriptive account of the result of each first class match played in England and Australia, and accounts also of the games played by the English University team in this country. All the other attractive features of this invaluable handbook have been retained, and in addition is given several interesting articles necessary to complete a faithful history of the past season, including personal recollections of W. G. Grace, Lord Harris and Steel, and an excellent portrait of the first named in a sitting attitude. The neatly printed volume contains 416 pages, and the price thereof is only one shilling.

M. C. BLACKHAM, the famous wicket keeper of the different Australian teams that have visited England and this country, was recently badly injured in a fall from his bicycle, the result of his right hand by a fast bowled ball. This accident will cause his permanent retirement from the cricket field. For twenty-one successive years Blackham ranked as one of the best in his position, and it will be hard to fill his place with the Australian team.

Lord HAWKE's team, which left Southampton, Eng., Nov. 30, arrived at Cape Town, South Africa, at noon on Sunday, Dec. 22. The English team opened their tour of South Africa Dec. 26, when they played fifteen of the Western Province, 79, in favor of the home team. Davenport made 29 for the English team.

The Rev. W. S. RAINFORD, president of the New York Cricket Association, won a handsome cup in a handicap contest at golf Jan. 1, at Lakewood, N. J.

## AQUATIC.

### Coming Events.

July 7, 8, 9—Henley Royal Regatta, Henley on Thames, England.

### Sport in the Manhattan Tank.

The final outcome of the contests for the swimming championship of the New Manhattan Athletic Club, which was decided in the big tank at the club house, Jan. 5, was close and exciting. E. M. Vandervoort won the coveted distinction from Dr. C. T. Adams by a single point, while M. Metzler and W. R. Grace were close behind for third and fourth positions. The events of the day resulted as follows:

500 yards scratch, distance 1000—Won by M. Metzler, Dr. C. M. Adams second, W. R. Grace third. Time, 8s. 10. *Swimming through an Iron Skin*—Won by Dr. C. M. Adams, W. R. Grace second and E. M. Vandervoort third.

Swimming race, 300 yards—Won by Dr. C. M. Adams second, E. M. Vandervoort third. M. Metzler (8s. 10) third. Time, 8m. 4s.

500 yards scratch—Won by M. Metzler, Dr. C. T. Adams second, R. F. Farjeon third. Time, 20s. 11. 1/2s.

500 yards scratch—Won by Dr. C. T. Adams, W. R. Grace, second, M. Metzler third. Time, 8m. 58s.

1/2 mile swimming contest—Won by E. M. Vandervoort, W. R. Grace second, Dr. C. T. Adams third.

1/2 mile swimming contest—Won by Dr. C. T. Adams, 1300; E. M. Vandervoort second, 1300; M. Metzler third, 1000.

The following table shows the standing of the various contestants:

Name	Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Total.
E. M. Vandervoort	13	9	3	36
Dr. C. T. Adams	13	9	3	35
M. Metzler	10	8	11	30
W. R. Grace	12	6	6	34
G. O. Gossman	5	6	3	14
R. J. Parson	2	6	3	11
G. Shambor	2	5	10	17
T. B. Reynolds	3	0	1	16
C. A. Goodman	1	0	1	16
A. Heine	0	1	0	3
T. Ward	0	0	2	2
W. W. Scott	0	0	1	1

The Harvard "Varsity crew" will be made up from the following students, who will soon go into training: F. L. Ames, 1898; J. H. Perkins, 178; J. Stillman, 175; A. H. Brewster, 165; D. M. Goodrich, 176; S. H. Miller, 172; C. H. Nichols, 172; C. H. Nichols, 172; C. A. Hines, 160; D. F. Murphy, 153; G. W. Mawmous, 165; A. W. Stevens, 163; E. W. Ames, 162; J. A. Moulton, 172; A. H. Rice, 163; A. T. Jennings, 184; H. E. Gibby, 160; M. G. Connor, 178; W. D. Hennen, 168; R. B. Hayes, 165; H. A. Curtis, 165; W. A. Hall, 168; A. E. Dacy, 160; J. N. Conger, 180; S. S. Sanborn, 172; F. J. Hall, 160; C. E. Sanders, 190; L. Williams, 180; P. S. Smith, 170; M. Donald, 175; J. J. Hayes Jr., 168; R. H. Stevenson, 178.

The Varuna Boat Club, of Brooklyn, N. Y., held its annual meeting, Jan. 2, and elected the following officers: John W. Reid, president; W. A. Merrick, vice president; W. A. Fletcher, treasurer; Louis Arnold, secretary; John G. O'Donnell, captain.

Another 6000 dollar yacht owned by Wm. Owens, of the Indian Harbor Yacht Club, was partially destroyed by fire at Greenwich, Ct., Jan. 3.

A match at pigeons, one hundred each, for a stake, thirty yards rise and fifty yards boundary, was shot by George Work and L. Patterson, at the grounds of the Westminster Kennel Club, Babylon, L. I., on the afternoon of Jan. 2, the result of a most interesting contest, that was witnessed by a goodly number of clubmen, being a victory for Work by a score of 83 to 80.

## ATHLETIC.

### COMING EVENTS.

Jan. 27, 1896—National Athletic Club and Company F. Forty-seventh Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., joint indoor games, armory, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Feb. 1—Amateur Athletic Union, ten mile flat race and two mile steeplechase, for championship, Madison Square Garden, New York City.

Feb. 20—Columbia, 1, Twelfth Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., and West Side Athletic Club joint indoor games, armory, New York City.

July 4—Amateur Athletic Union individual all around championship competition, Bergen Point, N. J.

### The Curlers Are At Work.

The cold snap experienced by the residents of the metropolis and vicinity during the early part of the present week afforded the votaries of curling an opportunity to indulge in their favorite amusement, and on Monday afternoon and evening, Jan. 6, the rink of the New York Thistle Curling Association, in Hoboken, was visited by many of the fraternity, and a series of interesting contests were decided. The members of the New York Caledonian Curling Club, in their annual point medal competition, which resulted in the success of D. W. McKenna, with a score of 26 points. Two teams composed of members of the Thistle Association contended for the Graham Medal, which was boldly won by the team of which Davie Foulis was skip, the score standing at 8 to 1. In the afternoon a match of three rinks was contested by representative players of the Thistle and John of Groats Clubs, both of this city, with the result shown in the summary that follows:

RINK NO. 1.  
Thistle—R. Chambers, No. 1; G. Turnbull, No. 2; J. Myer, No. 3; J. Gray, skip. Total 18.

John of Groats—No. 1; G. Williamson, No. 2; J. Moorehead, No. 3; G. Fletcher, skip. Total 12.

RINK NO. 2.  
Thistle—A. McKay, No. 1; C. McKenzie, No. 2; T. Watt, No. 3; R. Lender, skip. Total 15.

John of Groats—No. 1; A. Brown, No. 2; J. Bain, No. 3; G. Mauson, skip. Total 14.

RINK NO. 3.  
Thistle—F. McKay, No. 1; Watt, No. 2; J. Thair, No. 3; A. Fraser, skip. Total 16.

John of Groats—No. 1; J. Sutherland, No. 2; J. Mitchell, No. 3; D. Mackellar, skip. Total 16.

In the evening a similar match was played by teams representing the Thistle and Caledonian Curling Clubs, the result of which was as follows:

RINK NO. 1.  
Thistle Curling Club—Frank McKay, No. 1; Robert Louder, No. 2; Robert Watson, No. 3; Thomas Watson, skip. Total 13.

Caledonian Curling Club—George Williams, No. 1; Thomas Archibald, No. 2; Robert Watson, No. 3; Daniel W. McKeon, skip. Total 11.

RINK NO. 2.  
Thistle Curling Club—Robert Chambers, No. 1; George Williams, No. 2; Alexander Fraser, No. 3; John Gray, skip. Total 21.

Caledonian Curling Club—George Bain, No. 1; William Archibald, No. 2; John Templeton, No. 3; John Johnson, skip. Total 13.

RINK NO. 3.  
Thistle Curling Club—Alexander McKay, No. 1; James Watson, No. 2; John Watt, No. 3; Thomas Watt, skip. Total 14.

Caledonian Curling Club—Adolph Buschman, No. 1; Robert Archibald, No. 2; Thomas Archibald, No. 3; David Foulis, skip. Total 14.

The annual match for the Moir Medal, between officers of the St. Andrew's Curling Club, was also played, the team of which John Rennell was skip winning by a score of 15 points to 4.

THE UNITED BOWLING CLUBS held their annual election for officers at Beetham's Hall, in this city, on Saturday evening, Dec. 29. The officers elected were president, Louis Schmitz, Nordendic; Bowlers' Club; second vice president, Charles Dersch, Woodland Bowling Club; third vice president, Albert Mann, Heinebund Bowling Club; recording secretary, Julius Falino, Echo Bowling Club; financial secretary, Charles King, Gotham Bowling Club; treasurer, Joseph Thum, Spartan Bowling Club; captain, Joseph Wingfield, Linden Grove Bowling Club; first assistant captain, Richard Graner; Echo Bowling Club; second assistant captain, Bernard Schneider, Oriental Bowling Club.

THE ENTRIES that have been already received for the spring meeting to be held at Madison Square Garden, on Saturday evening, Feb. 1, under the auspices of the New Jersey Athletic Club, give assurance of a first class entertainment. The special features of the affair are the amateur championship races at ten miles, flat and two miles, steeplechase, but the quarter mile run open to the members of the different schools in New York, Brooklyn and Jersey City is enlisting great attention, and the prospects are that there will be a large entry list of young athletes therefor. The Imperial Russian Orchestra has been engaged to furnish music during the carnival.

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**London.**—At the Grand Joseph Hart, in "A Gay Old Boy," Dec. 31, made his first appearance before a London audience. The house was well filled. *Rhen*, in "Josephine, Empress of the French," Jan. 2, had a fair-sized audience. *John Boyle*, in "A Journey to the Rhine," had a poor audience. *4* "A Merry Christmas, War or Whiteside" (return date) and "The Merry World" are the only attractions booked for January.

**Guelph.**—At Royal Opera House, Jan. 4, *Rheas*, in "Josephine, Empress of the French" at matinee, and "Nell Gwynne," in the evening, had good houses. Coming: Local concert 7, *J. E. Toole* in "Killarney" and "The Rhine," 8.

#### TENNESSEE.

**Memphis.**—At the Grand Opera House "The Bachelor's Baby" was enabled to show up Dec. 31-Jan. 1 by reason of Manager Douglass having paid the fares of the company to this city from Nashville, where it was about to go into production. Douglass did a fine business here, which in a great measure was due to the popularity of two members of the combination who are natives of Memphis and have recently entered the theatrical profession. After the close of the engagement, on Jan. 1, the company disbanded, and, with the exception of the two Memphians alluded to, Tom Luther and Miss Monteith, did not apply for work here. *John Boyle* and *John W. Wind* opened to a fair house, for three nights and a matinee, Jan. 2. "The Girl I Left Behind Me" canceled 6. *Camille D'Arville* comes Jan. 11, "Twelve Temptations." **New LYCEN THEATRE.**—Creston Clarke opened 2 to a fair house, presenting "Hamlet," "Fool's Revenge," "Romeo and Juliet" and "Richelieu" will give 3, 4, 5. *John O'Neill* did a fine business Dec. 25-28. *Katie Emmett* comes Jan. 8, 9.

#### NEBRASKA.

**Omaha.**—At Hoyt's Theatre Elmer E. Vance's drama, "The Limited Mail," is due Jan. 5, 6. The Holden Comedy Co. will hold the boards for the remainder of the week, in a repertoire of popular plays, at cheap prices. "Charlie's Aunt" played at the Palace Dec. 29-30.

**THE CRICKETS.**—A "Balined Ticket" opens a four nights' engagement 5. "Trilby" comes for a return engagement 9-10, 11. "The Tornadol" was booked for the entire week past, but after playing four nights to fair audiences was induced to cancel the remainder of the week, and Frank Mayo, who should head Wilson, "played a return engagement 2-4, to large audiences."

#### KANSAS.

**Wichita.**—At the Crawford Grand Hawley's Minstrels received fair patronage Jan. 1. "Trilby" drew a large house at advanced prices 3. The Kimball Opera Co., with Corinne, in "The Girl I Left Behind Me," did a good business 4. "The Fast Mail" comes 6.

**KENTUCKY.**—(See Page 711.)

#### WYOMING.

**Cheyenne.**—Daniel Suly comes Jan. 7. Lyceum lecture course 10 and 11.

#### FOREIGN SHOW NEWS.

"KITTY CLIVE, ACTRESS," a one act piece, by Frankfort Moore, was acted for the first time at the Royal, London, Eng., Dec. 11.

"KING DAVID AND KING SAUL," a five act opera, by LaViner, was produced at the Standard Theatre, London, Eng., Dec. 7.

"THERE AND BACK," a farcical comedy, in three acts, by Atkinson, was performed for copyright purposes at the Theatre Royal, Bath, Eng., Dec. 12.

"MISS GALATEA OF OREGON," a play, in three acts and prologue, by Ellis Alex, Cleveland, was given for the first time at the Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, Eng., Dec. 4.

"THE UTMOST FARTHING," a four act play, by Bevis Cane, was produced at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Southampton, Eng., Dec. 9.

"A WIERD EXPERIENCE," a dramatic sketch, in five scenes, was originally acted at Sudder's Wells, London, Eng., Dec. 10.

"THE CRUEL LAW," a four act comedy drama, by Walter S. Craven, was staged for the first time at the Theatre Royal, Stratford-on-Avon, Eng., Dec. 16.

"AN UNSANCTIFIED GARNMENT," a three act comedy, by Gray and Marten, was first given at St. George's Hall, London, Eng., Dec. 20.

"FRIEGOND," a five act lyric drama, by Louis Galatt, music by Ernest Guiraud and Camille Saint-Saens was produced at the Opera, Paris, Fr., Dec. 18.

"Q. Q.," a three act play, by H. T. Johnson, was originally presented, Dec. 12, at the Princess' Theatre, Bristol, Eng.

"AFTER THE STORM," a one act play, by Cyril Austin Lee, was given its initial performance Dec. 11, at the Burgh Hall, Dunbarton, Eng.

"THE EGYPTIAN IDOL," a four act play, by Richard Saunders and Maurice E. Bandmann, was originally acted Dec. 16, at the Theatre Royal, Sunderland, Eng.

"LE CUVE," a three act piece, by Paul Adam and Andre Picard, was produced at the Theatre Levee, Paris, Fr., Dec. 16.

#### DEATHS IN THE PROFESSION.

Robert L. Webb, a well-known scenic artist, died Dec. 25, at his home, in Jersey City, N. J., from apoplexy. He was born Jan. 3, 1826, in Orange County, N. Y., and began his theatrical career in 1842, at Fox's Old Bowery Theatre, this city, where he was in pantomime productions ranking with the best, which was produced at Flory's Theatre, Brooklyn, N. Y., and which enjoyed a great success, was written and painted by Mr. Webb. He was also the author and painter of "Madame Bovary," "Diorama," and "The Man Who Would Attach His Wives," which enjoyed a great success. For several years ill health had prevented him from following his profession. He leaves a widow and five children. John B. Blair, painter and inventor, died, Jan. 1, at his home, in New York, after a long illness of many years. The deceased was the first to paint any great panoramas in this country, and was renowned as a painter of war panoramas. He was an excellent portrait painter, and the portrait of President Taylor, in oil, which is in the White House, is one of his best. He also painted a picture of the inventor of the silk bag gas balloon, which is now in use, and is also said to have invented a bicycle fifty years ago, which was constructed on the same principle as the present one. He was a painter of portraits, and was stricken with paralysis about five years ago, and a year ago he became blind and was taken to the Home for Incurables.

John J. Paddock, formerly well known as a charitable manager, died Jan. 2, at his home, in this city. He married Maggie Mitchell in 1869, and was her manager for many years. They had two children, Henry and Farnham. They were well regarded about ten years ago.

George Smith, a well-known actor, died Dec. 26, at Victor, Colo., was shot and killed during a disturbance in the theatre on the evening of Dec. 23. Further mention of the case will be found in another place in this issue.

John Van Allen, 34, a prominent young man, died by shooting Dec. 26, in Oakland, Cal. The deceased was well known in the West, and owned an interest in two theatres—one in Oury and one in Trinidad, Calif. He was in the early stages of consumption, and his acts are attributed to this. Full details of the affair will be found in another column.

PRINCE LUTWARD, a well known midge, died Dec. 25, at his home, in Jersey City, N. J., from apoplexy. He was born Jan. 3, 1826, in Orange County, N. Y., and began his theatrical career in 1842, at Fox's Old Bowery Theatre, this city, where he was in pantomime productions ranking with the best, which was produced at Flory's Theatre, Brooklyn, N. Y., and which enjoyed a great success, was written and painted by Mr. Webb. He was also the author and painter of "Madame Bovary," "Diorama," and "The Man Who Would Attach His Wives," which enjoyed a great success. For several years ill health had prevented him from following his profession. He leaves a widow and five children. John B. Blair, painter and inventor, died, Jan. 1, at his home, in New York, after a long illness of many years. The deceased was the first to paint any great panoramas in this country, and was renowned as a painter of war panoramas. He was an excellent portrait painter, and the portrait of President Taylor, in oil, which is in the White House, is one of his best. He also painted a picture of the inventor of the silk bag gas balloon, which is now in use, and is also said to have invented a bicycle fifty years ago, which was constructed on the same principle as the present one. He was a painter of portraits, and was stricken with paralysis about five years ago, and a year ago he became blind and was taken to the Home for Incurables.

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While strolling down the street one eve upon mere pleasure bent—

Two after business worries of the day—

I saw a girl who I used to know, from whom I recognized

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"Is that you, Madge?" I said to her. She quickly turned away.

"Don't turn away, Madge; I am still your friend.

Next week I'm going back to see the old folks, and I thought

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CHORUS.

"Just tell them that you saw me."

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Just tell them I was looking well, you know.

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